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Arab news
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VOL. VIII NO. 123 THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1983 JAMAD-AL-THANI 17, 1403 A.H. SIXTEEN PAGES

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TODAY IN Arab news

U.S. food grain
Commerce and acting Agriculture Minister Dr. Soliman Al-Solaimi says, after meeting U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block, that Saudi Arabia does not intend to import more U.S. food grain this year because of an increase in its domestic production. — Page 2

U.K. arms protest
British pacifists organize a major spring assault on nuclear arms over the length of Britain, as the ruling Conservative Party launches its own counterprogram in support of multilateral disarmament. — Page 6

West's nuclear worries
As the U.S. goes ahead with its plans of deploying missiles in Western Europe, the leaders of West Germany and Britain are worried over a deep surge of anti-nuclear sentiments among their people. — Page 9

Stunning success
A superb 90 by Sunil Gavaskar and a whirlwind 72 by skipper Kapil Dev steered India to a stunning 27-run success over West Indies in the One-Day Cricket International in Guyana. India also eclipsed the highest by a country against West Indies with their 282 for five. — Page 12

Nicaraguan battle
Nicaraguan government forces bomb an airfield being used by rebels in their drive to oust the Sandinistas. The U.N. Security Council ends the debate on a Nicaraguan complaint without taking any action. — Page 16

Algozaibi says development to be slowed down

By Jean Grant Arab News Staff

RIYADH, March 30 — "There will be no drastic changes in Saudi Arabia's development process, just a slowing down," Dr. Ghazi Algozaibi, minister of industry and electricity, told Arab News in an interview here in which he described how the Kingdom's planning will deal with diminished oil revenues.

"We don't anticipate any serious problems," he said. "What we are going to do is to stretch the time of projects. A project that would have been done in two years will now take four years. We will slow the paying process, there is no need to pay a contractor 20 percent upon the signature of a contract."

"We will make the process of contracting more competitive," he explained. "Instead of two or three or four companies bidding on a project, we will make it a completely open competition so there will be as many as 30 or 40 bidding on a project if they are qualified."

The official indicated that the "far" found in all budgets will be trimmed from the government's budget, and some projects like the construction of administrative buildings will be postponed. Temporary measures will be taken to deal with needs, as they arise.

"There are towns that require electricity, but they could do with a temporary generator for a year or two before the permanent generator is installed, Algozaibi said. "A city that needs a hospital could do with a 30-bed clinic."



Dr. Algozaibi Although new development proposals will be scrutinized very carefully, projects already signed will proceed as planned. The causeway to Bahrain, for instance, will be finished on schedule within three years.

"It is a good thing to pause and go at a slower rate," Algozaibi remarked. "The young people in Saudi Arabia now realize they have to work for a living. Saudi Arabia is becoming like the rest of the world. Anyone with drive and ambition can make it and rise to the top, but nobody is going to spoonfeed everyone forever."

The oil slump has not lowered morale in government circles, according to Algozaibi. "No one was very happy about the high production levels in the past," he said. "It was our obligation to the world community and economy to do our share by raising production, but in reality, we wanted to make our oil last as long as we could make it stretch and our policies have always been based upon this."

(Continued on back page)

Qatar faces slick threat

DOHA, March 30 (R) — A giant oil slick, estimated to cover an area about the size of Belgium, is likely to hit the Gulf state of Qatar within the next 24 hours, a government environment official said Wednesday.

Dr. Hassan Khashkhash told Qatar radio that oil spewing from two damaged Iranian wells at a rate of 7,000 barrels a day was about six miles north of Qatar and covered an area two or three times the size of the 4,000-square-mile (10,000 sq km) peninsula.

Qatar radio urged the country's 250,000 residents not to panic. The local Red Crescent Society called for volunteers to help in planned clean-up operations.

Helicopter and satellite surveillance showed that the slick, worst spill ever in the oil-producing region and likely to devastate rich fishing areas, was 16 miles north of Bahrain and spreading.

It has been edging south at an average six miles a day for several weeks.

The damaged Iranian wells are in the Nowruz field northwest of Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island. One well was hit accidentally by a ship while the other was alleged to have been damaged by an Iraqi attack in the Gulf war.

Local and foreign oil accident experts were standing by in the Gulf to help combat the slick, which threatens desalination plants in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and is causing untold marine damage.

Oil booms were put around water plants and industrial complexes in Qatar.

Reagan offers N-missile cuts Soviets must reciprocate on 'global basis'

WASHINGTON, March 30 (R) — President Ronald Reagan, in a major policy change, Wednesday offered the Soviet Union an interim agreement to limit medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe pending an accord on eliminating all of them.

He said his new offer, which gave no numbers but called for cuts to equal levels, was an interim solution since Moscow had rejected his own "zero option" plan.

He said in a statement to NATO ambassadors in the White House that Paul Nitze, U.S. negotiator at the European missile talks in Geneva, had told the Soviet delegation that the new proposal was "a serious initial step" toward the elimination of all medium-range missiles.

The president offered his compromise proposal after months of pressure from West European leaders, concerned about the growing anti-nuclear movement in their countries, who called for a change in U.S. policy at the Geneva talks.

Reagan said: "When it comes to intermediate nuclear missiles in Europe, it would be better to have none than to have some. But if there must be some, it is better to have few than to have many."

"If the Soviets will now agree to the total elimination of these weapons, I hope they will at least join us in an interim agreement that would substantially reduce these forces to equal levels on both sides."

He said that under his new interim plan the

United States would "substantially" reduce its planned deployment of Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles in Western Europe if Moscow reduced the number of warheads on longer-range intermediate nuclear missiles "to an equal level on a global basis."

A senior Reagan administration official said at a briefing for reporters that the phrase "global basis" emphasized Reagan's refusal to agree to the switch of any of these missiles from European areas of the Soviet Union to Asia.

The official said the United States intended to begin the deployment of its missiles in Western Europe in December even if Moscow agreed to Reagan's new proposal — unless it accepted the "zero option" plan.

That plan offered to cancel the deployment of all U.S. land-based medium-range missiles in Europe if the Soviet Union dismantled all its 600-plus comparable weapons, including an estimated 350 three-headed SS-20's.

In rejecting it, Moscow offered to reduce

its medium-range missiles in Europe west of the Ural Mountains to 162, the number of sea and land-based missiles in the independent French and British arsenals.

President Reagan turned down the Soviet offer last year, and a White House fact sheet Wednesday reaffirmed his refusal to count the British and French weapons in missile numbers under negotiations at the Geneva talks.

Although the president did not mention the level to which he might want U.S. and Soviet land-based medium range missiles reduced, U.S. officials said earlier he had favored a limitation to approximately 100 of the weapons with a total of 300 warheads on each side.

But the Reagan administration official who briefed reporters Wednesday said no number was envisaged and ceilings were a matter for negotiation at the Geneva talks, which adjourned Tuesday until May 17.

The official also said that specific proposals would not have to come first from the Soviet Union, a change in Reagan's previous position of waiting for Moscow to make the next move in the negotiations. Reagan made his new offer at a time of unusually tense relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.



Syria in peril, Kremlin says

MOSCOW, March 30 (AP) — The Soviet Union on Wednesday accused Israel of planning a "piratic strike" against Syria and warned that "it is high time Tel Aviv stopped playing with fire."

Moscow's warning to the Israeli government came in an unusual government statement published by the official news agency Tass.

"New disquieting reports are coming in from the Middle East where the situation has been already dangerously strained," the statement said, according to Tass.

"Military preparations are being conducted in Israel undisguisedly with a view to delivering a piratic strike at Syria," it added.

"As in the past," the statement said, "Israelis were 'sharpening their knives' against Syria by using the argument that they needed to defend Israel's security."

The same argument had been used to justify the "barbarous aggression" of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last summer, the statement said.

It added that Israel was not alone in wanting to attack Syria, accusing the United States of backing Tel Aviv.

"When the Israeli military sweep Arab lands with fire and sword, everybody knows that that sword was put in its hands by Washington," the statement said.

NATO allies chime approval

LONDON, March 30 (Agencies) — America's NATO allies gave enthusiastic backing Wednesday to President Reagan's compromise offer on medium-range missiles and called for a quick and constructive Soviet response.

In Brussels, a statement from NATO headquarters said the new plan was a significant step forward toward an equal, fair and verifiable arms control agreement.

The NATO statement reaffirmed that U.S. missiles will go ahead as planned "in the absence of a concrete arms control agreement."

NATO said it was now up to the Soviet

Union to respond constructively and to join with the U.S. "in an intensive effort to reach a mutually significant, equitable and verifiable agreement in Geneva at the earliest possible date."

The British government "warmly welcomed" the Euromissile proposals, the Foreign Office said.

In an official statement, the Foreign Office asked the Soviet Union "to consider this important offer with the utmost seriousness and to respond positively."

In Bonn, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl welcomed Reagan's proposal and appealed to the Soviet Union Wednesday to give up its rigid stance on medium-range nuclear missiles.

In Paris, the French government "welcomed with great interest" the Euromissile proposals. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said France was pleased with U.S. efforts.

'Land Day' observed

TEL AVIV, March 30 (AP) — Scattered violent demonstrations erupted Wednesday as the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip commemorated the 1976 killings of six Arabs in a land dispute.

The military command and police spokesman described the Land Day observances as more orderly than in past years, but authorities arrested 41 Palestinians.

Britain reduces price of oil

LONDON, March 30 (Agencies) — The price of best quality North Sea oil produced by Britain is to be cut to \$30 a barrel and the price of other qualities will be reduced to \$29.75, officials said here Wednesday. The reductions will be backdated to March 1.

Oil sources said they believed these price levels would be acceptable to members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and particularly to Nigeria.

The new prices reflect what the state-owned company sees as the market value of North Sea crudes in light of the recent price cut by OPEC, the sources said.

Earlier this month OPEC dropped its benchmark price for Saudi light crude from \$34 to \$29 a barrel. Britain, the world's fifth

largest oil producer, competes directly with Nigeria, one of OPEC's largest producers, in the high quality oil market.

In recent weeks, British and Nigerian officials have been in close contact on the oil price issue.

But it was unclear whether Nigeria would accept the proposed new \$29.75-30 levels without cutting its own prices and sparking a price war. Nigeria now charges \$30.

The British pound reacted well to Wednesday's news, gaining about half a cent to \$1.4605 from an earlier \$1.4553. The pound hit an all-time low \$1.4510 on Monday.

The new proposed price structure would probably take the price of Stafford crude to below \$30, the sources said.

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Saudi Arabia won't buy more U.S. grain--Solaim

RIYADH, March 30 (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia does not plan to import any more U.S. food grain this year because of an increase in its domestic production, a senior government official said Wednesday. Commerce and acting Agriculture Minister Solaim Solaim told reporters after meeting here with visiting U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block that he had stressed Saudi Arabia did not intend to import more U.S. wheat, barley or sorghum, a grain used in animal feed.

Block was also received Wednesday by Crown Prince Abdullah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard. The audience was attended by Dr. Solaim and Ambassador Richard Murphy. Block is touring North Africa and the Middle East to promote exports of surplus U.S. products. The United States complains it has lost sales in its traditional markets due to an unfair farm subsidies policy by the European Community of about \$7 billion a year.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officials who attended the meeting said the minister was referring to extra purchases beyond already planned levels. USDA has estimated Saudi Arabia will import 400,000 tons of U.S. wheat and flour in 1982-83. Earlier Block said the American share of the \$7 billion Saudi market was now only about \$450 million a year.

Block told reporters he would draft a letter to the Saudi Arabian government assuring it of the security of American supplies of wheat and other grains at competitive prices. He

said he hoped it would persuade them to import more U.S. agricultural goods.

Dr. Solaim said the letter would have a bearing on his government's decisions on a drive for self-sufficiency in wheat and other grains. He also said Saudi Arabia will consider a U.S. request to relax controls on American processed food imports, but he added the U.S. would do well to remove legislative restrictions which make it difficult for U.S. exporters to do business with Saudi Arabia.

"We would like the U.S. to become more competitive in the Saudi market," he said. On Tuesday, Block inspected a number of agricultural and animal husbandry projects in the Kharij region, southeast of Riyadh. He was accompanied on the trip by Ambassador Murphy.

In the meantime, a U.S. trade delegation, currently visiting the Kingdom, Tuesday met with the chairman of the Saudi Arabian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the Eastern Province Saad Al-Muajel. The meeting dealt with fostering trade cooperation between the Kingdom and the U.S.

The delegation is scheduled to meet with Saudi Arabian businessmen in the region to discuss promoting trade exchanges. The 17-man team includes representatives of American firms and corporations specialized in the field of energy, petroleum engineering, petrochemicals, protective clothes, gas and petroleum equipment.

Action against overstayers urged

RIYADH, March 30 (SPA) — The Interior Ministry has issued a statement urging citizens to take certain measures to help deal with the problem of overstayers and foreigners residing illegally in the country. The statement said no flats should be rented to foreigners except after it was established they were legal residents in the Kingdom.

Foreigners residing legally in the country for their part should not accommodate illegal residents or rent dwellings on their behalf.

The ministry warned that it would inflict punishment provided for under the law on those covering up illegal residents and withdrawing licenses from real estate offices found guilty.

It would also deport foreigners found guilty and ban their re-entry into the Kingdom.

In the meantime, Ministry of Interior has fixed the end of next February as the last date for citizens to obtain licenses for any arms and ammunition in their possession.

In a statement issued in this respect, the ministry called on citizens to strictly observe the rules provided in the arms and ammunition regulations and report to the nearest police station to fill an application form to obtain the necessary licenses or receive compensation for arms in case they do not want licenses.

By King Abdul Aziz University

Tomography, nuclear seminar set

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 30 — King Abdul Aziz University (KAU) will hold a symposium on "Computerized Tomography (CT) and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)" at the Jeddah Meridien Hotel Saturday. Dr. Zahran, dean of the Medical Science Faculty will welcome the audience and Dr. Al-Dabbagh, head of the Radiology Department, will be the coordinator.

Dr. Fries, an American, will speak on CT clinical experiences in the United States. A graduate of Louisiana State University, he is the director of radiology in St. Anthony's Medical Center at St. Louis. Dr. Fries has co-authored *Computed Tomography of Head and Neck* and *Extruded Nucleus Pulposus*, and has lectured in Sweden, Britain and American universities on CT exam of spine.

Other participants of the seminar are Dr. Peter McAtamney and Dr. Beydoun. Dr.

McAtamney will speak on "Technical introduction to CT" and on "Introduction to NMR". He is technical application manager for International General Electric Company, Medical Systems, London, and does liaison with hospitals and universities engaged in joint research on technical and physical projects on CT and NMR.

Dr. Beydoun will speak on CT experiences in Saudi Arabia. A graduate of Damascus University, he is currently a director of diagnostic imaging at Dr. Erfan General Hospital in Jeddah. He had residency in Diagnostic Radiology at the University of Texas in Houston, was assistant professor at M.P. Anderson Hospital, Houston and had served in various centers in Oklahoma and California, mainly in CT scan of invasive radiology.

The same symposium will be held at the Military Hospital in Riyadh on April 4 and at the Meridien Hotel in Alkhobar on April 5.

Baz's plea for shunning mourning

RIYADH, March 30 (SPA) — The Chairman of the Islamic Research, Propagation and Guidance Sheikh Abdul Aziz ibn Abdullah ibn Baz has called on Muslim states to do away with the habit of mourning kings and leaders as this was contrary to Sharia (Islamic Law).

In a statement on the matter, Sheikh ibn Baz stressed that mourning entails heavy damage, obstructs businesses and leads to imitating the enemies of Islam. He expressed his hope that Muslim leaders and people would refrain from this habit, adhere to their Sharia, and be vigilant against anything contrary to Sharia.

BRIEFS

GIC agreement

RIYADH (SPA) — A royal decree has been issued here ratifying an agreement on the formation of the \$2.1 billion Gulf Investment Corporation, signed in Manama on Nov. 10. The agreement, approved by Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) leaders, provides for investing funds collectively and effectively within and outside the region.

Italian military group

JEDDAH (SPA) — An Italian military delegation led by the defense undersecretary arrived here Wednesday from Riyadh, as part of a visit to Saudi Arabia.

IDB aid to Sierra Leone

JEDDAH (R) — The Islamic Development Bank said Wednesday it would provide Sierra Leone with technical aid worth 453,000 Islamic dinars (\$490,000) for water

exploration and 324,000 dinars (\$350,000) to help build a road to Conakry, the capital of Guinea.

Pakistani minister due

RIYADH (SPA) — Pakistani Interior Minister Mahmud Haroon will arrive here on Saturday on a ten-day visit to the Kingdom during which he will hold talks with Interior Minister Prince Naif.

Omani minister leaves

RIYADH (SPA) — Omani Transportation Minister Salim Nasser al-Bousaidi has left here for home after a three-day visit. Prior to his departure, the minister told SPA that he discussed with Saudi Arabian officials cooperation in the field of transportation, particularly in exchanging information and technical experience. He also inspected some projects.

U.K. exports to Kingdom up by 20 %

By Devadas Kini
Riyadh Bureau

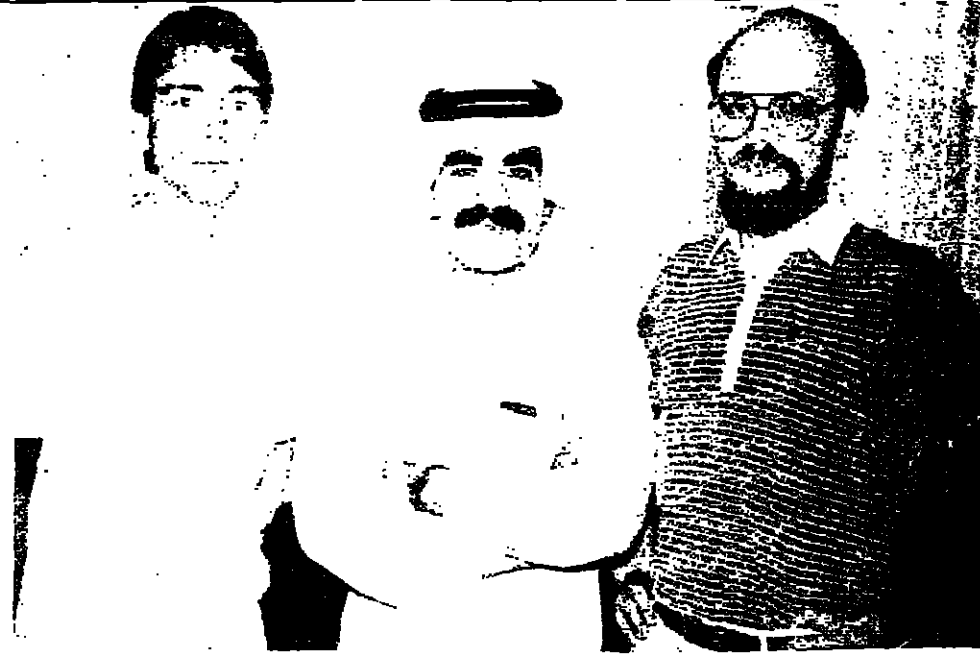
RIYADH, March 30 — Britain increased its exports to the Kingdom by 20 percent in 1982 to reach £1,361 million, according to John Milne, first secretary (economics) of the Saudi-British Economic Cooperation Office. This increase followed a 10 percent increase in 1981. British exports, which were £1,050 million in 1980, increased to £1,134 million in 1981 and soared again to £1,361 million in 1982. This boost in exports was accompanied by a substantial decrease in imports from the Kingdom. British imports of £1,927 million in 1980 decreased about 5 percent to £1,841 million in 1981 and dropped further by 20 percent in 1982 to £1,447 million.

Milne said Saudi Arabia has become the top market for Britain outside West Europe and the United States. Apart from trade, Britain has extended cooperation in many other areas to develop the resources of the Kingdom. The British Council, Milne said, has conducted many English language teaching programs and has sent many Saudis to higher language training courses in the U.K.

According to Milne, an agreement between the Finance Ministry of Saudi Arabia and an official organization in Britain to recruit British experts for all the ministries of the Kingdom, is likely to take definite shape in the next few weeks.

Water and sewage departments of the Kingdom have exchanged delegations with Britain. In science and technology, there is a proposal to invite experts to visit the Saudi Arabian National Center for Science and Technology. The British Standards Institution (BSI) has been working in close cooperation with the Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO) for a number of years and this year, according to Milne, BSI will provide technical advice and training to SASO, now called GASMO (Gulf Arab Standards and Measurements Organization).

He also said the British Department of Transport has been consulting with the Ministry of Communications on the maintenance of highways and highway road safety.



SWEDISH TEAM: A four-member Swedish youth delegation is currently on a ten-day tour of the Kingdom under the General Presidency of Youth Welfare visit exchange program. Shown here (from left) are Jan Björjunge, leader of the delegation and the first vice president of the National Council of Swedish Youth; Tarik Jaffer Zawawi, representative of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare, and Anders A. Aronsson, of the Temperance Youth Movement.

Under visit exchange program Swedish youths tour Kingdom

By Suresh Shah
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 30 — A Swedish youth delegation is currently touring the Kingdom under the visit exchange program of the Social Activity and Camps Department of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare.

The four-member delegation of the National Council of Swedish Youth (SUL) is headed by Jan Björjunge, SUL first vice president, representing the Center Party Youth League. The other members are Anders A. Aronsson, of the Temperance Youth Movement; Gunilla Samuelsson, alternate member of the SUL executive committee representing the Social Democratic Youth League, and Lena Björk, of the Social Democratic Youth League.

The delegation which arrived here Monday, visited the desalination plant, the Swedish Embassy, the Mercedes factory and the Corniche before it left Wednesday for Abha and Khams Mushait. The youths will be in Riyadh until April 2-3 when they will visit King Saud University, the information center and the National Museum, and meet officials of the Planning Ministry and the General

Presidency of Youth Welfare. The team will visit the important places in Alkhobar, Dhahran and the industrial city of Jubail, before leaving for Sweden on April 7.

"The SUL is a coordinating body for international affairs for about 40 Swedish youth organizations representing more than a million young people," Björjunge told Arab News. A voluntary and non-governmental organization, SUL is a member of the Council of European National Youth Committee, which makes it possible for youths from SUL member organizations to participate in seminars and conferences in various places throughout Europe.

The SUL constitution provides that it "constitutes a forum, in the first instance, for talks on international matters of mutual interest to free and voluntary youth work; is based on the U.N. Convention on Human Rights; works for democracy, social justice and the rights of national autonomy; fights colonialism; and provides liaison with international organizations in matters concerning youth work."

Björjunge said contacts between young people in East and West Europe are growing rapidly and SUL participates actively in this work in the spirit of the Helsinki Agreement.

GCC unity bases laid, Bishara says

JEDDAH, March 30 (SPA) — Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara has affirmed that the council had laid down the necessary foundations to achieve unity of its six members. The GCC is made up of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Addressing a seminar held at the King Abdul Aziz University Tuesday, Bishara said the council had covered a long distance in ensuring security and stability in the region. GCC members aim at the good of the Gulf region and its stability and seek the interests of the Arab and Islamic nation, he added.

Referring to the proposed GCC security agreement, he said it had nothing to do with external security but was designed to organize the exchange of normal criminals and other offenders.

Bishara affirmed that the Gulf states were more stable than other countries in the world and should not be affected by the reduction or fluctuation of oil prices.

IMSU's stone-laying in Qasim set April 6

RIYADH, March 30 — Qasim Governor Prince Abdul Ilah ibn Abdul Aziz will attend the stone-laying ceremony of Imam Muhammad ibn Saud University (IMSU) branch in Al-Qasim, Al-Bilad reported Wednesday. The April 6 ceremony, will be attended by Hassan ibn Abdullah Al-Sheikh, minister of higher education; Dr. Abdullah ibn Abdul Mohsen Al-Turki, the rector of Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University, and other officials.

A piece of land between Buraidah and Unaiyah was secured to house the new branch whose faculty of Sharia (Islamic law) and the Fundamentals of Religion, and faculties of Arabic and social sciences are already operating. The SR62 million contract for the branch will have been fully implemented before Wednesday inauguration.

Some 1,206 students are already studying at the Qasim branch which was inaugurated in 1976. The designs were prepared by the committee in charge of the University City in Riyadh. The implementation is supervised by the university's projects department. In addition to the main building, there will be a mosque that can accommodate 1,000 worshippers at a time.

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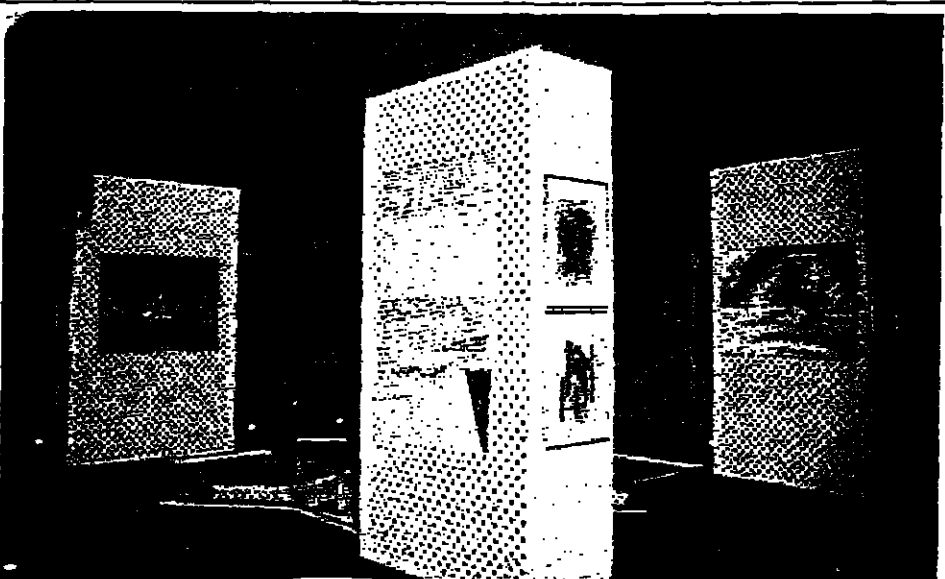
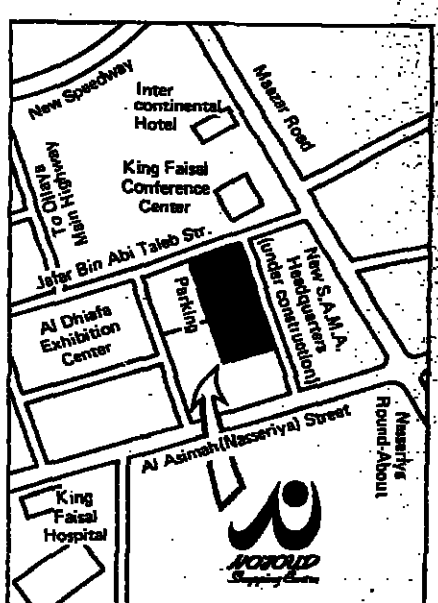
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ART SHOW: A painting exhibition by Egyptian artist Emersalda Haddad was inaugurated by Dr. Muhammad Ali Al Kattan, deputy mayor of Jeddah, at the Al Attas Hotel in Jeddah Sunday. The show has met with an encouraging response from art lovers in Jeddah. "I am very happy and enthused by the response to my first exhibition in the Kingdom. I have been encouraged by the good response and 10 out of 27 paintings and six out of 20 graphics have been sold during the first three days of the show," Emersalda told Arab News. The show will continue until April 2.

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OPENING SOON

Mission on four-day visit

Austria's bank benefits promoted

By Suresh Shah
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 30 — Austria surpasses Switzerland in banking safety, profitability and secrecy, according to Dr. Karl Pale, chairman of Girozentrale, Vienna, which ranks among the top 150 banks in the world. Pale is leading an Austrian banking and trade mission now on a four-day visit to the Kingdom. The members will meet with officials of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) and other leading banks here and in Riyadh during their visit.

Pale said that an important banking factor

is stability and the Austrian currency and economy is exceptional. The Austrian schilling is linked to the Deutschmark and the Central Bank has consistently pursued a hard currency policy since the beginning of the '70s. Along with the moderate trade union wage policy, he said, the country has weathered all economic disturbances without devaluation.

"The basis for this is a long-standing social peace within the framework of a well-functioning system of social partnership," Pale explained. "Monetary and social stability are closely related in Austria."

"Banking secrecy is fully covered by Austrian law," he said. "The right to open an account is guaranteed by law and the identity of account-holders are also protected."

Girozentrale, Vienna, is a wholesale bank without branch and retail business. It is extremely active in international financing and foreign share of its total business last year was around 30 percent. The aggregate assets of the bank reached 570 billion Austrian schillings (\$34 billion) in 1982. Their share of the investment market is about one-third and in the loans market it is more than a quarter. In the factoring, leasing and investment fund business the financial group comprising Girozentrale and its 1,200 savings banks enjoys first place.

In the international market, from 1975 to 1982, Girozentrale has acted as co-manager for 83 Eurobond issues and has underwritten 1,372 issues. It was the first Austrian bank after 1945, to issue bonds in the domestic and foreign capital markets, Pale added.

He said Vienna is one of the most frequented conference places as well as an international meeting place. Traditionally Austria is a turning table in the East-West trade. Over 90 percent of foreign firms have opened business there with the intention of taking advantage of Austria's special know-how in international trade.

Gerhard Mueller, Commercial counselor at the Austrian Embassy, said the trade between the two countries is continuously growing. Austria's imports from the Kingdom totaled SR1.6 billion last year while its exports to Saudi Arabia was SR900 million. Major items of exports include machinery and capital goods for steel plants; heavy duty trucks; fruit juice; milk products; chemicals; building materials; and specialized firefighting equipment for airports.



AUSTRIAN MISSION: A delegation of Austrian bankers and businessmen has arrived on a four-day visit to the Kingdom. Shown here, (from left) are Peter Nemeschak, international financing departmental director in Girozentrale; Heinrich Pechin, Middle East area manager; Dr. Karl Pale, chairman of the managing board of Girozentrale; Dr. Herbert Kasper, divisional manager, department of economics and marketing, and Gerhard Mueller, commercial counselor at the Austrian Embassy in Jeddah.

Gulf bankers' drafts an easy mark for international criminals

LONDON, March 30 — Bankers' drafts drawn on Gulf banks are often the easiest to forge, making the Arab banking world extremely vulnerable to fraud and forgery committed by international criminals according to the latest edition of *Gulf Bank - ing and Finance*. Even when fraud and forgery committed by international criminals are discovered, prosecution is drawn out and inefficient.

Scotland Yard's Company Fraud Branch recently prosecuted a team of international criminals known as the Hungarian Circle. Many of them were Hungarians who had settled abroad — supposedly as a result of the Communist purge of Hungary — mainly in South America.

Their method of operation was simply to buy genuine bankers' drafts in one city, forge copies of them, and then fly to distant parts of

the world and cash the forged documents. The Yard spent as much as £2 million in tracking them down and bringing them to justice.

The criminals were in jail for 18 months before being brought to trial and then those convicted received sentences which were severe but not exceptional — surprising, because the prosecutor claimed that if the Circle had been allowed to continue, it would have wrecked the banking system of the Western world.

During the trial evidence emerged that the Circle had found it much easier to forge bankers' drafts drawn on Gulf banks. A typical example was that of a Gulf bank with a British manager who ordered the bank documents to be printed by a former school friend in Britain. The documents lacked sophisticated paper, watermarks, thread and printing

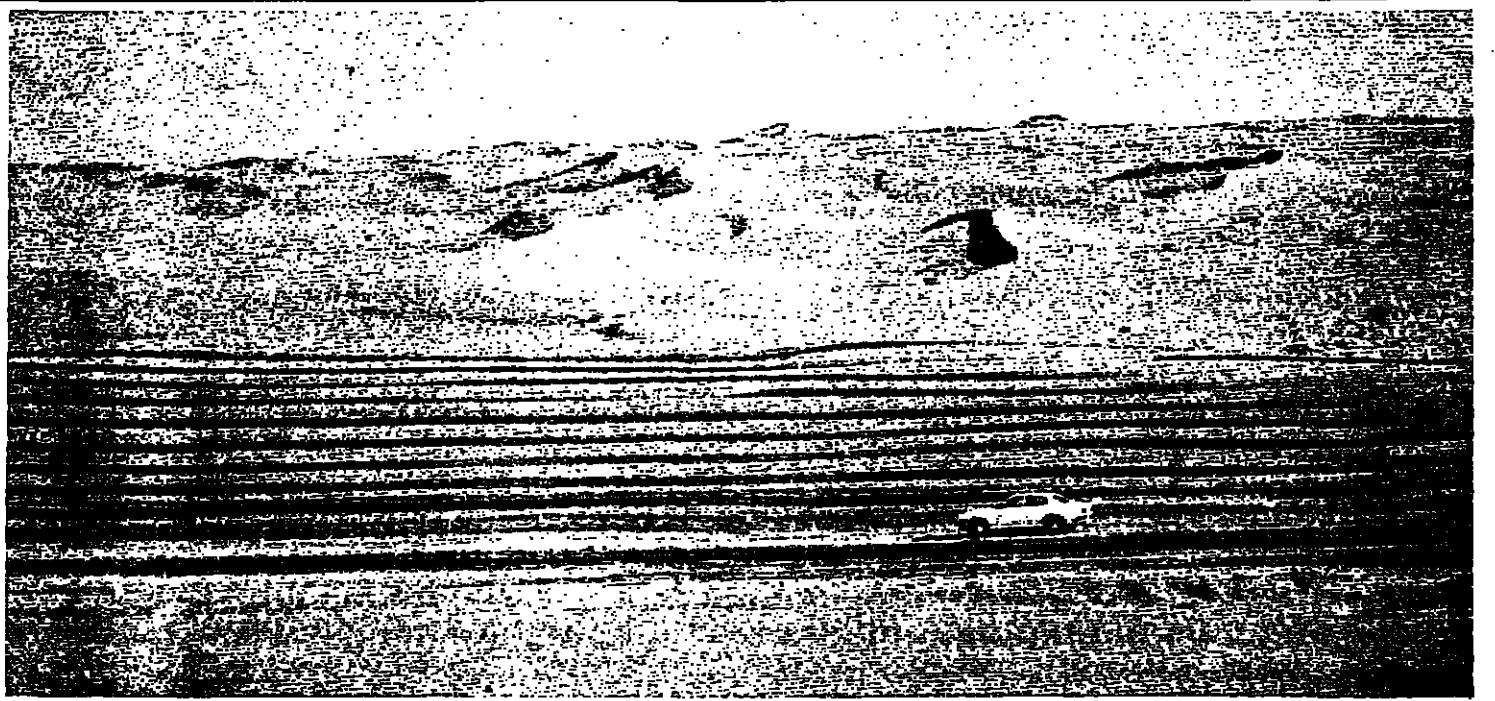
which is designed to protect banks using them.

Although the Yard is to be congratulated on its investigation, which cost British taxpayers a fortune, the director of public prosecutions, Sir Alastair Hetherington said he will not prosecute such cases in the future unless the principal losers are British.

The issue revolves around the question of whether it is worthwhile for the British taxpayer to pay money to investigate and prosecute other people's losses. Behind that question is also the issue whether the City of London is not itself more vulnerable to fraud than many suppose.

The Circle operated as far north as Stockholm, as far south as South Africa, as far west as California and as far east as Bombay.

To this day, many are still suspicious of the Circle's ambitions.



SAND-CHECKING PROJECT: Terracing sand dunes with bituminous strips is one method of sand stabilization being researched by scientists in the Kingdom. Tree planting is also being used and the latest possible answer is the use of a 'dry irrigation' system using natural humidity stored under the dunes.

Sand invasion threatens Ahsa

Researchers enthusiastic about 'dry irrigation'

JEDDAH, March 30 — Ahsa Province is being invaded by sand which gains up to 10 meters a year but tree-plant projects and new 'dry irrigation' system could be the answer to the problem. *Al-Bilad* reported that advancing sand now covers a total area of 32,000 square meters of the oasis.

The sand comes from Jafoura and Nofouth deserts, in the north and south, and from the

high and low tides caused in Arabian Gulf waters. A large amount of sand settles at Roba Khali.

According to Yusuf Al-Abdul Wahid, director of Ahsa's sand-checking project which began in 1962, five million trees were planted in a 500 square kilometer area as part one of the project. The irrigation water is pumped from 40 wells especially drilled for

this purpose. The sand dunes were first leveled by using bulldozers and then planted.

Part two, which consists in four similar defense lines to shield the area's cities, villages, farms and roads from the invasion of sands, is already in process. But this time, the cultivation depends on the humidity stored under the dunes, rather than irrigation by well water. The system is called dry irrigation.

Experiments have been taking place for the past seven years to fix the sand dunes by deep planting at a one-meter depth wherever the level of humidity is high, without any irrigation whatsoever. The new system saves money and efforts and does not even need the usual maintenance of trees by surrounding them with fences, digging artificial lakes and cement canals, machine and pump rooms, etc.

Air market discussed

JEDDAH, March 30 — Achieving stability in the airline market was discussed during the 17th session of the general assembly of the Arab Air Carrier Union held last week in Abu Dhabi. Capt. Ahmad Mattar led the Kingdom's delegation to the meeting and told *Al-Bilad* that 18 leading airlines were represented.

Laser surgery success

RIYADH, March 30 (SPA) — A Saudi Arabian surgeon has succeeded in using the laser beam to remove an adhesion of the vocal cords suffered by a three-year-old girl.

The 20-minute operation, the first of its kind in the Middle East region, was performed by Dr. Adnan Al-Daouq of the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and succeeded in enabling the girl to speak in a normal way. The laser technique eliminates bleeding during the operation.

Quick action halts fraudulent deals

JEDDAH, March 30 — The data center of Jeddah Chamber of Commerce has saved a number of Saudi Arabian businessmen from a fraudulent operation, *Al-Madinah* reported Wednesday.

A number of Jeddah merchants were about to conclude deals with disreputable foreign businessmen. They wanted to import goods worth more than SR10 million from the Southeast Asian countries. Before proceeding any further, they consulted the

chamber's data center.

The center immediately got in touch with similar centers in those countries, to discover that the so-called foreign businessmen were neither registered in any commerce chamber, nor creditable.

Again, the director of the chamber's legal affairs department urged all importers and merchants to consult the chamber's information center (which is linked with three international centers abroad) before signing any suspicious deal.

Dammam marine station opened

DAMMAM, March 30 (SPA) — A telecommunications center and a marine communications station were inaugurated here Tuesday.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Abdullah Al-Abbad, communications director-general said the venture "is part of a program to develop telephone, telegraph and telex communications inside and outside the country."

All parts of the Kingdom have been linked with the outer world through a sophisticated microwave network designed and carried out by Saudi Arabian experts, he added.

Abbad said the SR300 million center had 23,000 internal and external lines a car-

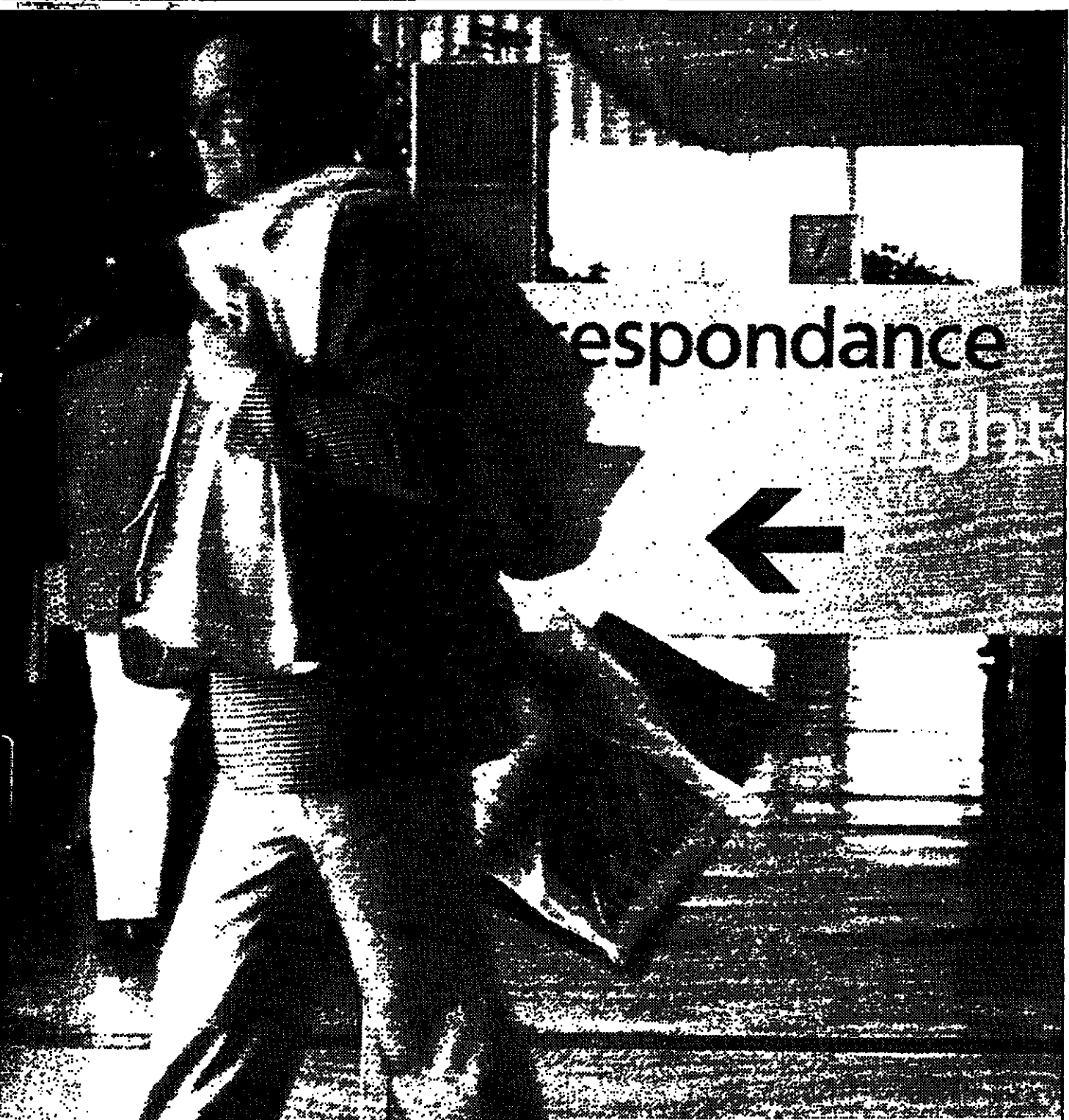
telephone network and a maintenance unit.

He described the marine station as one of the biggest of its kind in the world.

The station links the Kingdom with all parts of the globe around the clock and businessmen can be reassured about the safety of their goods while still on the high seas, he said.

It consists of a control center, a transmission station, a reception station, and three high-frequency stations located in Dammam, Jubail and Al-Khafji.

The station's equipment with 30,000 kilometer range is operated through a fully automatic control system.



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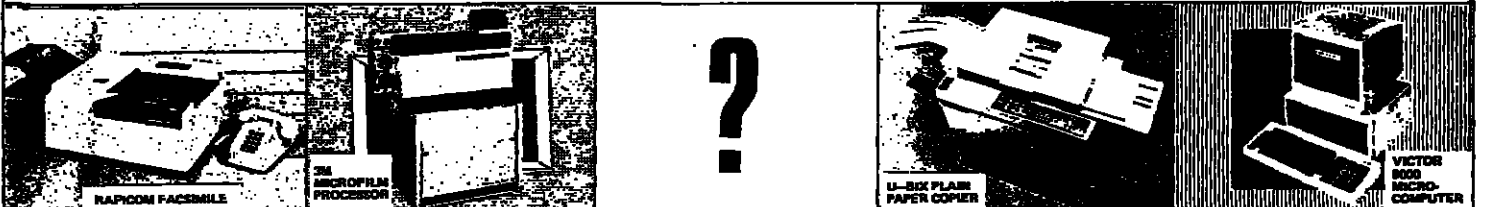
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Japan seeking to merge Fez, U.S. peace plans into one

CAIRO, March 30 (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said in an interview published here Wednesday that his government is seeking to merge the two Mideast peace plans put forward by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and an Arab summit conference into one.

In an interview with the Cairo daily *Al-Ahram*, Nakasone said his country plans to make use of President Hosni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to Japan to achieve this objective. Mubarak is scheduled to make a five-day visit to Japan starting April 5 as part of a four-nation tour that will also take him to Indonesia, North Korea and China.

Reagan's plan calls for Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza in "association" with Jordan after terminating Israeli control of the two territories. The Arab summit plan, worked out in Fez, Morocco, calls for creation of an independent Palestinian state on the same territories under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"What is required now the search for way to conciliate and coordinate between what came in the Reagan and the Fez plans in order to have one initiative based on the same principles for achieving peace," Nakasone said without specifying the principles he has in mind.

"This is a common aim we, together with Egypt, seek to achieve. We will concentrate our efforts on this project," Nakasone added.

President Mubarak's visit will provide us with a precious opportunity to get a first hand report on the factual situation in the Middle East and will enable us to make a correct judgment and form a right opinion particularly concerning the PLO, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Libya, the relationship between Egypt and Iraq, Israel, the Iraqi-

Iranian war and the situation in North Africa," Nakasone said.

"We have great potentialities and are interested in increasing cooperation with the Middle East countries, and because of this, we will do our utmost to facilitate a settlement for the existing struggle in the area," Nakasone pledged. Nakasone said King Hussein of Jordan has visited Japan recently and "held consultations with us on the subject."

He said "the direct responsibilities before us now" are to achieve an Israeli pullout from Lebanon and stop the construction of Jewish settlements on the West Bank and Gaza.

the PLO and the Arab states should recognize Israel and express readiness to live in peace with her to help the United States use its influence and bring about a peaceful settlement. "In this regard, I realize that President Hosni Mubarak holds the same views," Nakasone added.

The United States has been sponsoring the Middle East peace process which has so far produced the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

Nakasone reaffirmed his country's "full support" for the Palestinian people's right in self-determination, "including the right to establish their own state."

The Palestinians have to determine whether they want to confederate with any other party," Nakasone said referring to Jordan.

On bilateral relations, Nakasone expressed his government's willingness to cooperate with Egypt in all economic and trade fields.

Under an agreement signed here last week, Japan pledged soft loans and grants totaling \$134 million for Egyptian economic development projects.



Hurd rules out sending more troops to Beirut

BEIRUT, March 30 (AP) — British Minister of State Douglas Hurd Wednesday ruled out any strengthening of the small British contingent in the multinational peace force here.

Speaking to the press on the last leg of a fact-finding tour of the Middle East, Hurd said that "a practical decision will be taken in London as to whether we continue the presence, but there will be no reinforcement."

Britain sent some 100 men last month to join the larger U.S., French and Italian contingents which are patrolling the Lebanese capital.

The minister said that "part of the purpose of the Queen's Dragons (the troops sent in) is to deter violence. So far they have succeeded."

On the U.S.-backed Lebanese-Israeli sessions on the future of their relations, Hurd said: "Obviously the negotiations are in a difficult stage, but one must persevere because there is no other alternative."

He added: "There is no doubt that the King (Hussein) of Jordan sees an opportunity and seeks to take advantage of it."

"But he understandably and rightly wishes to have adequate support, partly from (Palestinian leader Yasser) Arafat and other Arabs, before he gives his yes to Washington."

Hurd went on: "He also needs to know that if he comes forward the Israelis will agree to withdraw their troops from Lebanon and stop their provocative policy of intensifying their settlements in occupied areas of West Bank."

He said that the recent Arab League mission to London, chaired by King Hussein, "went very well."

He added that "Walid Khalidi, the Palestinian representative, made an outstanding contribution during the talks."

Hurd said that the visit had enabled British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to propose an updated declaration on the Middle East to European Economic Community (EEC) leaders at their summit in Brussels last week.

Cairo busts drug gang

CAIRO, March 30 (AP) — Egyptian police have seized hashish worth an estimated \$1 million in a desert gun battle with Bedouin traffickers, *Al-Ahram* newspaper reported Wednesday.

The newspaper said the dope was being carried on camels across the desert after being brought in from Lebanon. It said the traffickers planned to "swamp the Egyptian market."

Surprised by police as they rested, the drug runners opened fire on police but finally gave up and escaped on camels, abandoning the drugs.

Al-Ahram said the gun battle lasted two hours and several traffickers were wounded and two arrested. It did not say how many people were involved but identified them as members of the Balaa tribe.

Arafat: no rift with Jordan

KUWAIT, March 30 (APF) — King Hussein of Jordan has not asked the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for a mandate to join Middle East peace negotiations, PLO chief Yasser Arafat said here. He denied reports of a rift between the PLO and Jordan, saying his visit to Amman had been delayed by two days only because of the current visit there by Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

Arafat, on a Gulf tour, arrived here from

Cheysson asks Soviets to end Kabul occupation

ISLAMABAD, March 30 (AP) — French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson denounced the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and said there was no justification for any great power to enter neighboring country.

"I will not accept the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, not even it can ever be proved that there had been a danger of foreign influence in that country," he told a crowded news conference here.

He also urged the Soviets to solve the Afghanistan problem through "acceptable means, not through military occupation."

If once in the world, we accept that a great power enter a neighboring country and occupy it, saying that a threat can result from foreign interference, just think where will we go, and what will be the end through such a process," he said.

"France condemns and denounces the presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan as it condemns it in any sovereign country, including the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, or the South African presence in Namibia," he said.

Cheysson is here on a three-day official visit.

Earlier Tuesday, the French minister said he met Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and had detailed discussions on Afghanistan. He said both countries want to find a "political solution" that will enable the Soviet forces to withdraw.

"We hope that the U.N. secretary-general and his special assistant on Afghanistan, can find a solution through talks between Pakistan and other parties concerned," he said.

Nearly 2.8 million Afghan refugees now live in Pakistan, and another 1 million have crossed into Iran since the Soviet military intervention in their homeland more than three years ago.

PLO demands U.N. investigation into poisonings

UNITED NATIONS, March 30 (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organization called on the United Nations to form an international medical committee to investigate Israeli use of a poisonous substance in the occupied West Bank.

Hassan Abdul Rahman, a representative of the PLO's U.N. observer mission, told a news conference Tuesday there was circumstantial evidence that Israeli authorities were using poison or nerve gas in the Jenin area to "create a panic situation where Palestinians would leave the West Bank."

He quoted the head of the Medical Association of the West Bank, Dr. Salti, as reporting that the poisonous substance, a yellow powder, may have a sterilizing effect. The victims, mostly school girls, reportedly suffered nausea, blurred vision and fainting attacks.

"The PLO calls on the United Nations to form an international medical committee for the purpose of examining the substance that has been discovered" and to report back to the world body. An appeal, he said, is going to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The ambassadors of Iraq and Jordan were delegated by the 21-member Arab group at the United Nations to discuss the creation of a medical committee with British Ambassador Sir John Thomson, current president of the 15-nation Security Council.

Rahman said the Arabs would not seek a council meeting if the medical committee could be formed without one.

According to PLO figures, 1,100 West Bank residents had fallen victim to poisoning since March 23 — 600 of them on Monday night.

Meanwhile, Israel Army sealed off Jenin Wednesday as Palestinian tempers flared over the poisoning and security forces braced for possible Arab riots.

Swiss satire irks Jews

BERN, March 30 (AP) — The Swiss Broadcasting Corporation violated its government license by carrying a radio satire in which Israel's intervention in the Lebanon was likened to Nazi policies, a government-appointed commission said Wednesday.

Upholding a complaint filed by Switzerland's Jewish Community, the commission ruled that the satire was a gross violation of fairness obligations under the license granted the corporation.



HONORED: Moroccan King Hassan (right) points out the decoration, Tuesday, which was given to Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez in Fez. The decoration is the Grand Ribbon of the Alauite Order which is Morocco's highest civilian honor.

BRIEFS

KARACHI (AP) — More than 50 students were arrested throughout this city Tuesday night for blocking traffic and attempting to set public buses on fire, police said. Police said the students were demanding the release of a student charged with the murder last year of a rival left-wing student leader.

LONDON (R) — The Libyan People's Bureau in London called for international action to deal with what it called "the threat posed by Israel's nuclear arsenal." It said in a statement: "A call for international action to deal with the threat posed by Israel's nuclear arsenal has come in a memorandum from the Libyan People's Bureau addressed to all diplomatic missions in London."

DAMASCUS (R) — The International Red Cross (ICRC) representative in Syria said 57 non-Arab commandos of the Palestine Liberation Organization were now under ICRC supervision in South Lebanon. Richard Gotee told Reuters most of them were Turks.

BEIRUT (AP) — An arms shipment for Egypt was seized by Lebanese customs officers, triggering a protest by the Egyptian government, Beirut newspapers reported Wednesday.

CAIRO (AP) — Twenty-six policemen were injured early Wednesday when their

speeding truck overturned in a South eastern Cairo suburb, police sources said. They said the truck driver apparently lost control as he tried to make a turn while driving fast.

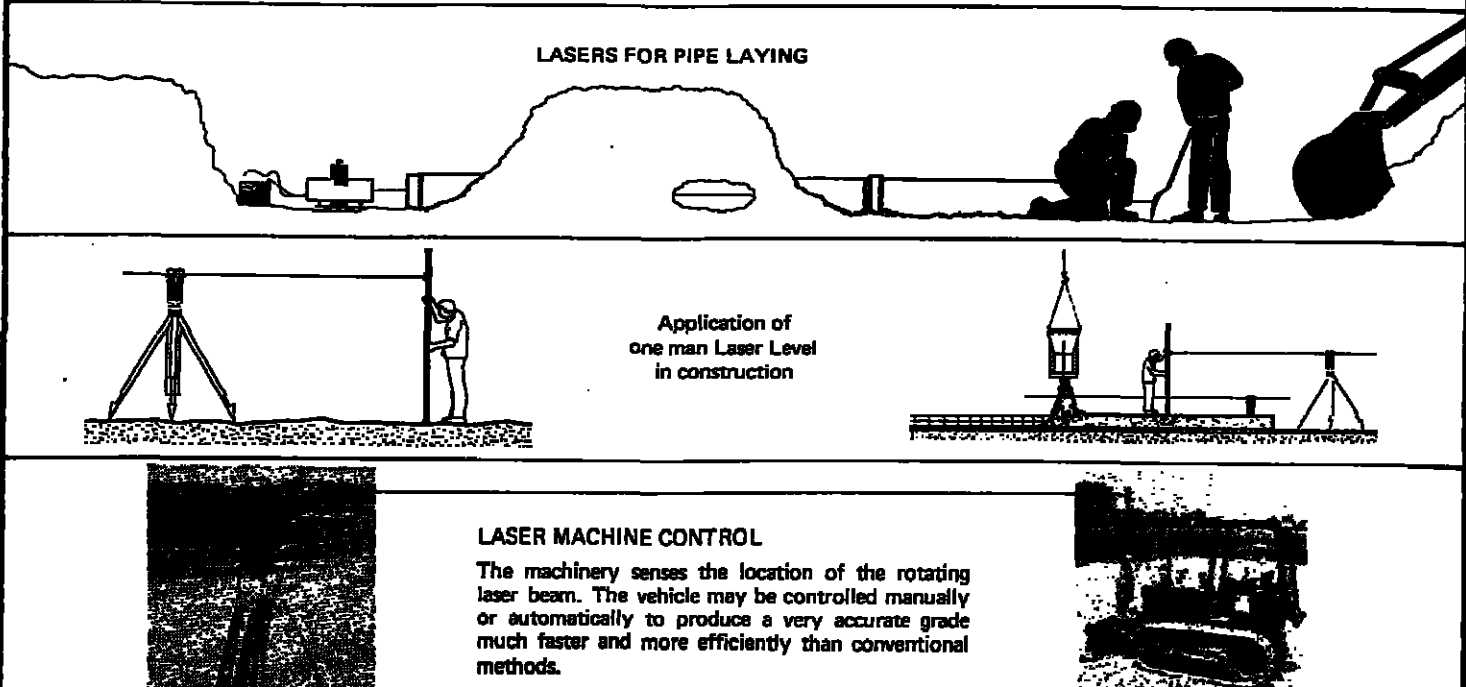
NICOSIA (AP) — The population of the Jalazoun Palestinian refugee camp have appealed for international pressure on Israel to lift a three-week curfew on the camp, Wafa, the official Palestinian news agency reported Wednesday. Eleven Palestinians, mainly infants, mothers giving birth and elderly people have died in the camp "because of the continued medical blockade and the lack of medical attention," Wafa reported.

DAR ES SALAAM, (AP) — An African regional conference on Palestine, organized by the United Nations, opened Tuesday in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha. The meeting, chaired by Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim A. Salim, is the first of five regional forums to be held in advance of a U.N.-sponsored international conference on Palestine to open Aug. 16 in Paris.

PARIS (AP) — The Mujahideen Khalq, a leftist group trying to overthrow the government in Iran, charged Wednesday Revolutionary Guards executed 25 villagers, some of them elderly, in an attack in northern Kurdistan last week.

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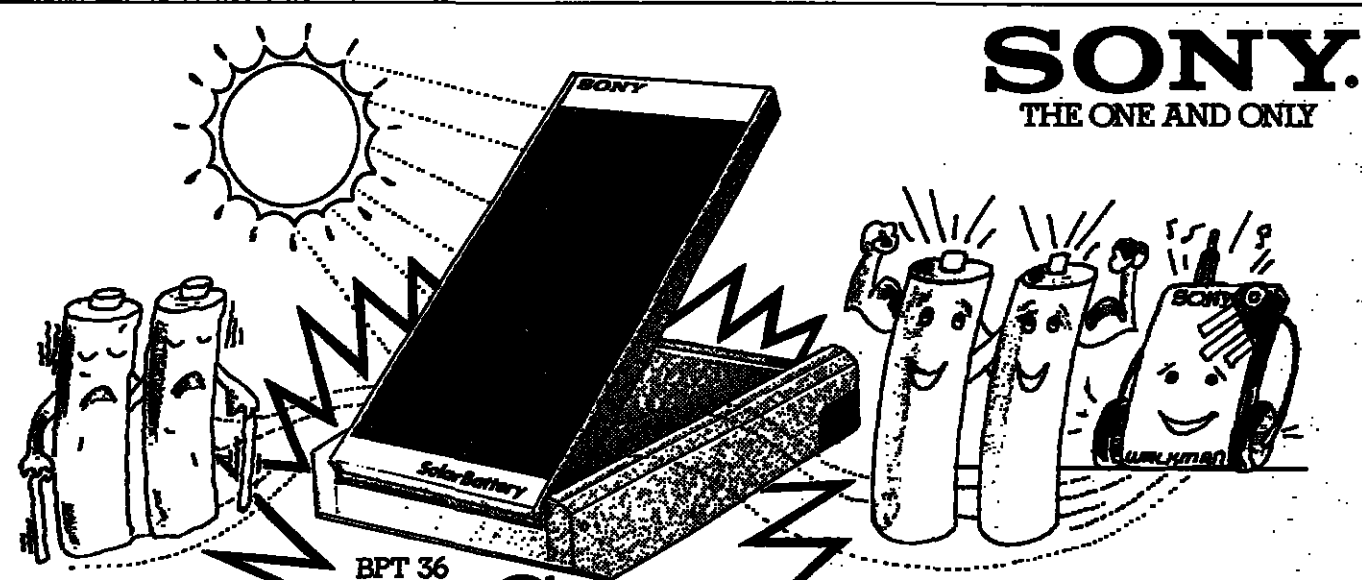


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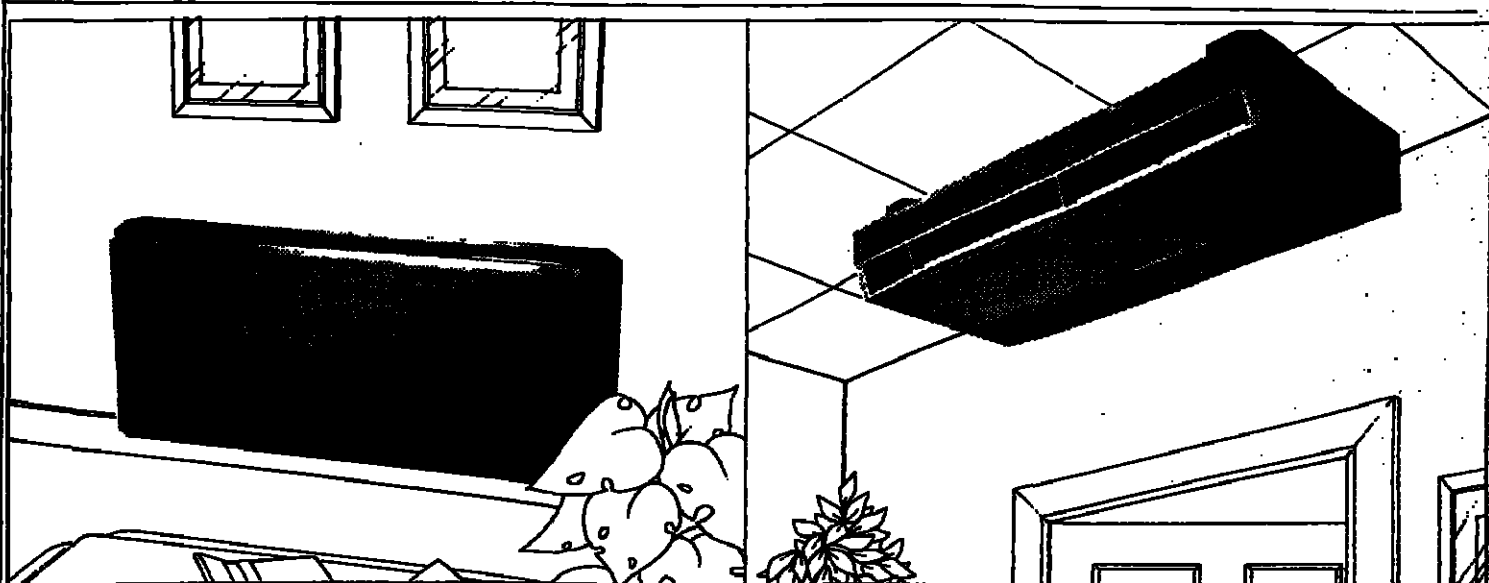
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مركزنا الاول

For abuse of public office

Rome, Milan officials facing judicial probe

ROME, March 30 (AP) — Magistrates warned officials of the leftist governments of Rome and Milan that they are under investigation for possible abuse of public office.

In northern Milan, Prefect Nicoletta Gandus sent judicial warning letters Tuesday to Socialist Mayor Carlo Tognoli and Angelo Capone, commissioner of public housing, to say that they risk being charged with exceeding their authority.

Another panda may be on way

MEXICO CITY, March 30 (AP) — Tohui, the first surviving panda born in captivity outside Communist China, may get a little brother or sister in July, the administrator of the Chapultepec Zoo said Tuesday.

Maria Elena Hoyo also had some other news: Tohui, now a year and eight months old and weighing a robust 231 pounds (105 kgs), is not a little boy panda as previously believed. Tohui, zoo veterinarians discovered during a recent examination, is a girl.

Miss Hoyo said it is difficult to determine the sex of giant pandas until they are at least a year old and even then veterinarians make mistakes.

She said it may be necessary to change Tohui's name, which means male child in the Mexico's Tarahumara Indian language. She said Tohui's parents Pe-Pe and Ying-Ying worked hard during March on a playmate for Tohui.

Tohui was born July 21, 1981, weighing in at three and a half ounces.

Pandas are nocturnal animals resembling bears, but some scientists believe they belong to the racoon family. They are native to the high mountain bamboo forests of central China and often grow to five feet in height and weigh over 300 pounds.

London machine 'reads' passports

LONDON, March 30 (AP) — London's Heathrow Airport has become the world's first to instal computer-linked machines that can "read" passports and help spot terrorists and criminals on a British blacklist, Home Office Minister of State David Waddington said.

The British-made machines are designed to speed up immigration procedures and keep out 18,000 terrorists and criminals from countries around the world currently on the blacklist, Waddington said Tuesday at an airport demonstration.

New American passports printed with encoded computer information about the holder are the only ones the machines can read now.

But Waddington said the 10-nation European Common Market hoped to introduce machine-readable passport in 1985 and Australia was considering a similar move.

Under the new system, an encoded passport is fed into a slot and the information appears on a computer terminal in front of the immigration officer. It is then checked against blacklisted names in the computer and, if necessary, against information on the passenger's arrival card.

PASSPORT LOST

Passport No. Y-1874557 issued to Dennis D. Williams, United States citizen, at Washington, D.C., U.S.A., was lost in the vicinity of the American Embassy, Jeddah.

Finder may please contact Mr. Williams at the Consulate Section, American Embassy, Jeddah.

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Tennis player Hu appeals for asylum on U.S. TV

By Martin Burch

Houston Bureau

HOUSTON, Texas, March 30 — Taking her request for political asylum to the American people, Chinese women's tennis champion Hu Na said on a recent broadcast of ABC television's "Nightline" that she hopes relations between the United States and Communist China will not be strained because of her.

But, as ABC termed it, Hu's case has "moved from the court of tennis to the court of diplomacy."

Hu's interview was her first public appearance in the United States since she defected from the touring Chinese tennis team in San Francisco in July 1982. Since that time, she has been living in seclusion with sympathetic Chinese families in the San Francisco area. She said she spends her time learning English, playing tennis, watching television and

Premadasa, Chun exchange views

SEOUL, March 30 (AP) — Sri Lanka Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa Wednesday met separately with President Chun Doo-Hwan and Premier Kim Sang-Hyup to exchange views on international and bilateral issues.

Premadasa was awarded the order of diplomatic service merit, Grand Kwanghwa, during his call on Chun at the presidential residence "Blue House," Korean officials said.

Premadasa and Korean Prime Minister Kim Sang-Hyup agreed to broaden economic cooperation between the two countries and

playing video games.

Hu defected because she feared she would be caught up in Communist Chinese politics and would become "an advertisement for the party," she said. Before coming to the United States in July, she said she received several letters from party officials asking her to join and contribute her status as a top athlete to the goals of the party.

She said she wanted to be neutral and remain aloof from the many factions of the Chinese Communist Party. She said she feared that if she became involved with one faction and it should someday lose power, then she would suffer, both as an athlete and an individual.

Hu said she misses her family, still in China, "but for concern for my personal safety, I must do what I am doing."

The Chinese Foreign Ministry and the Chinese Tennis Association have released

statements guaranteeing Hu's safety should she return to China. U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz has received demands from Peking to return Hu.

Observers in Washington feel that Hu is now such a world figure that it would be impossible for the Chinese to take action against her should she return, but Hu expresses misgivings about the Chinese overtures. She said she might have to go to a labor camp, or be placed under house arrest, or even worse, not be allowed to play tennis any longer if she returns.

Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs Richard Holbrooke said Hu should be returned "under no circumstances." He also said she should be allowed to stay in the United States and play tennis, but placed the blame for the current tension in Sino-American relations on the administration.

Romanian alleges U.K. jail torture

BUCHAREST, Romania, March 30 (AP)

— A Romanian recently deported from Britain to his Communist homeland has charged British prison officials with repeated beatings and torture, according to the state-run Agerpress news agency.

Agerpress also reported Tuesday that the man, Stanco Papusoiu, is in hospital in the southern city of Craiova in "more than precarious condition."

The news agency did not elaborate on the reason for hospitalization, nor did it expand on the alleged torture charges, other than quoting Papusoiu as saying he had been held

Holbrooke said that there are other means for Hu to take to remain in the United States other than political asylum. He said the 1980 Immigration Act provides technical, complicated methods for persons such as Hu, who seek refuge in the United States, and that the issue of political asylum is a false one.

Dr. Ray S. Cline, former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, echoed Holbrooke's sentiments, saying it is "scandalous the United States can't decide (about asylum)." When questioned about the possibility of a flood of refugees seeking asylum, should Hu be allowed to remain in the United States, Cline said Washington should take a firm position in principle about Hu and admit those people with bona fide claims for sanctuary.

Holbrooke said the current tempest about Hu is but one indication that Sino-American relations are "in a mess."

under "severe" conditions.

After the deportation his British lawyer alleged that Papusoiu had been beaten up twice by guards at Ashford detention center before he was put on the Bucharest-bound flight.

Many British parliamentarians and human rights groups expressed outrage at London's refusal to grant asylum to Papusoiu, returned to Romania March 16. Romanian exiles in London said he had spent nine of the last 11 years in prison for six abortive attempts to reach the West.

Homeward Bound

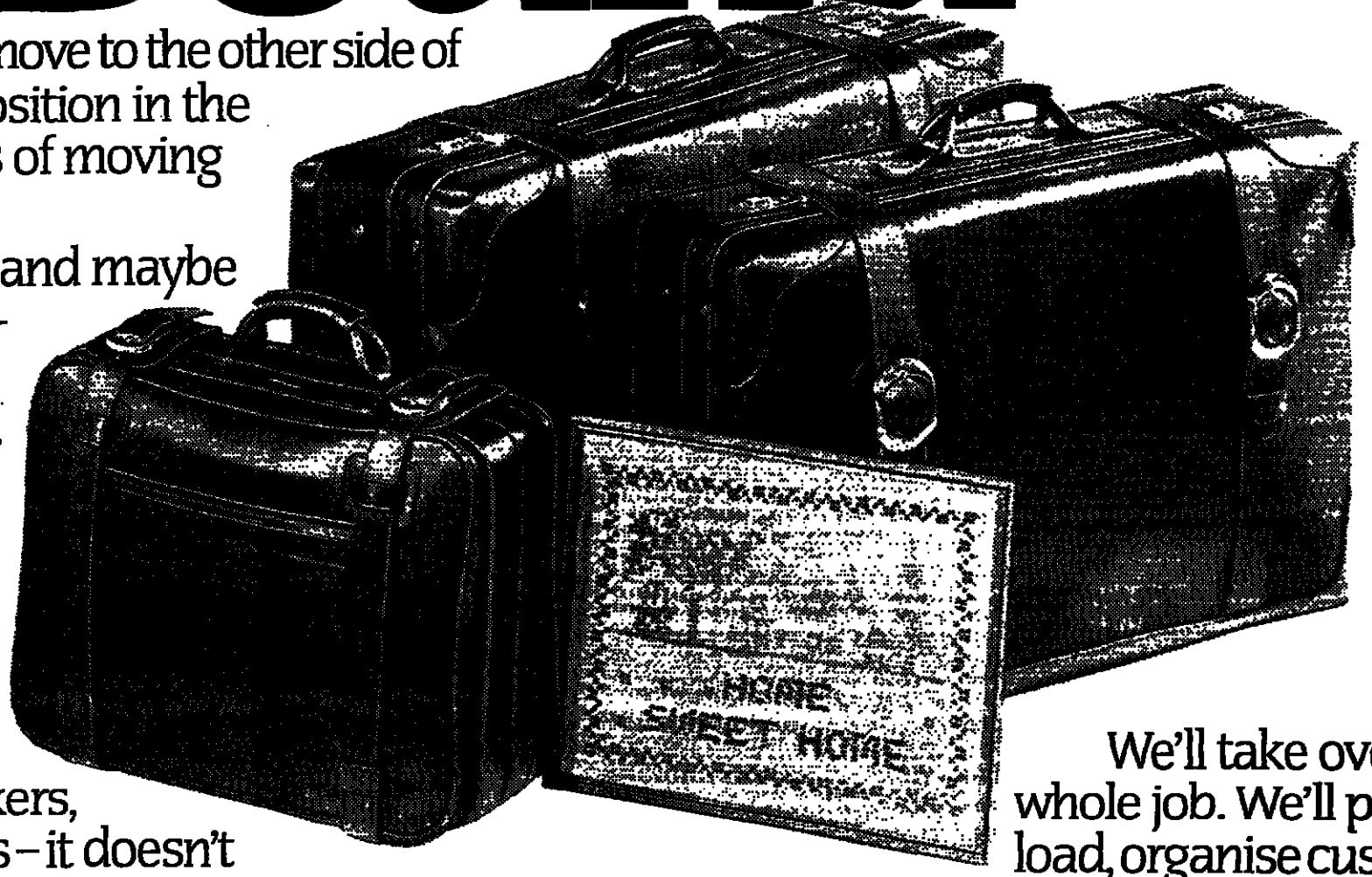
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Tories launch counterprogram

U.K. pacifists plan arms protest

LONDON, March 30 (AP) — British pacifists have organized a major spring assault on nuclear arms, with a Thursday to Sunday campaign over the length of Britain, as the ruling Conservative Party launches its own counterprogram in support of multilateral disarmament. (Related stories on page 9.)

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), which claims over 250,000 members, will concentrate its attack on the 160 Cruise missiles the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is to deploy in Britain this December. The NATO plan, part of a wider deployment of 572 missiles in Western Europe, has put the CND back in the limelight after a virtual eclipse throughout the 1970s.

On Thursday, CND demonstrators will attempt to surround Greenham Common, the base 100 kilometers west of London where 96 Cruise missiles are to be stationed, as well as the arms factory at Burghfield which is to produce the Trident nuclear missiles due to take over from the outdated Polaris in Britain's nuclear submarine force.

For Friday the CND has announced that

40,000 persons will form a 22-kilometer human chain from Greenham Common to Burghfield via Aldermaston, where the nuclear heads for the Tridents will be produced.

On Saturday the movement moves up to Scotland for a huge "die-in" in central Glasgow. For four minutes demonstrators will act out a nuclear catastrophe, following this up with a "festival for peace" in a city park. The campaign closes Sunday when demonstrators will ring the Scottish nuclear base at Faslane.

The CND is convinced that the example of one country can halt the nuclear arms race, and is fighting for unilateral disarmament with no conditions. It recently launched a door-to-door campaign to preach its views.

CND campaigners are masters of non-violent resistance and their leaders are fiercely determined. "There will be more and more non-violent actions. By December there will be a lot of people in prison", CND Secretary-General Bruce Kent told newsmen here last week. The CND revival, and the popularity it might muster for the Labor Party, which is against the Cruise missiles, have stirred the Conservatives to a counteroffensive.

The government party is only too aware of the weight the nuclear issue will carry in next year's elections and has appointed MP Winston Churchill, grandson of the late Sir Winston Churchill, and a defense specialist, to head its public opinion drive. This will concentrate on the message that only effective dissuasion and negotiated disarmament can safeguard peace.

In a bid to explain that the Cruise missiles are being deployed with this end in mind, the Tories launched the "coalition for peace through security" here at a ceremony chaired by Churchill. The coalition is charging in its counter-campaign that "Communist Party members have a dominant influence at the highest level of CND".

Meanwhile, five Conservative women have launched the "Women for Peace" movement and called on women to lay wreaths Sunday at war memorials across the country as the CND demonstrators encircle the Faslane Base. Women for Peace also plans to hand in a petition at the Soviet Embassy on May 1. "It will certainly embarrass (Soviet leader Yuri) Andropov, founder member Lady Olga Maitland has pledged.

Clark praised as a 'selfless pioneer'

FEDERAL WAY, Washington, March 30 (AP) — Artificial heart recipient Barney Clark was eulogized before 1,300 mourners Tuesday as a seemingly ordinary man who became "a selfless pioneer."

"To a world increasingly filled with hopelessness and despair, he stood quietly and resolutely for an entirely different view of life," Neal A. Maxwell of the Mormon church said of Clark. "His impact was immense — greater than he could possibly know."

The 62-year-old Clark died Wednesday, his 112th day of life as the first man with a permanent artificial heart. At his death, his doctors praised him as a "hero and winner"

determined to prove the device would work in people.

"On the surface, Barney Clark may have seemed quite ordinary, but he did extraordinary things," Maxwell said.

His widow, Una Loy, entered on the arm of her son Stephen and smiled and winked at a family friend. His daughter, Karen Shaffer, cried softly. Other family members, including son Gary and five grandchildren, walked behind.

Also following the casket were some of Clark's doctors from the University of Utah Medical Center in Salt Lake City. They included Dr. Willem Kolff, director of the

university's division of artificial organs; Dr. William C. Devries, the surgeon who implanted Clark's polyurethane heart last Dec. 2; assisting surgeon Lyle Joyce; and Dr. Robert Jarvik, inventor of the air-driven heart.

Representing U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the funeral service was William Ruckelshaus, a resident of nearby Medina and the president's choice to head the Environmental Protection Agency.

The day before Clark received the artificial heart, Kolff stressed the experimental nature of the device, and warned that Clark's life with the new heart might be brief.

Top British agents 'cleared' after probe

NEW YORK, March 30 (AP) — Two high-ranking British counterintelligence officials were investigated as part of the Soviet spy scandals of the 1950s and '60s, but were cleared of any involvement, according to a new book.

The book also said a later prime minister did not know about the investigation, and promoted one of the officials to director general of the intelligence agency, the M15.

The book — *The Circus: M15 Operations 1945-72*, by Nigel West — is being published in Britain and in the United States, although some paragraphs of the British version have been excised under court order in London.

At a news conference Tuesday, West said a senior intelligence official had admitted stealing a copy of the manuscript, photocopying it

and returning it. The photocopies were used in the government's successful effort to stifle publication in England, but a complete copy had been taken out of the country by Sol Stein, president of Stein and Day Publishers.

Among the portions of the book that were deleted in England was a paragraph that said Sir Michael Hanley, a top official of the M15, was a target of an investigation code-named Harriet, the aim of which was to uncover other members of the spy ring that included Guy Burgess, Donald Maclean, Harold Philby and Anthony Blunt, who died Saturday.

Hanley was cleared, according to West. In 1972, he was promoted to director general of the M15. Prime Minister Edward Heath was

not told that Hanley had ever been investigated, West said. Hanley retired in 1979.

West said another investigation, code-named Peters, centered on another senior official, Graham Mitchell. That investigation turned up no conclusive evidence, West said, and Mitchell retired in 1963, shortly after the investigation ended.

Both Mitchell and Hanley are living in England. West said Mitchell verified his research; West corresponded with Hanley, but would not discuss the contents of that correspondence.

If Mitchell and Hanley were not Soviet "moles," West said, "we're in a very serious position today" because Soviet agents are still in place in the British intelligence establishment.



GESTURE: Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu (right) gestures as he talks with Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau during a visit to the city hall Tuesday. Papandreu is on an official visit to Canada.

By a bomb threat

London concert interrupted

LONDON, March 30 (AP) — A concert starring U.S. country and western singer Dolly Parton was evacuated Tuesday night after a telephone bomb threat. But a search by police explosives experts revealed nothing and the show at London's Dominion Theater resumed 90 minutes later.

Miss Parton told reporters Friday after her arrival in London that death threats had caused her to cancel two concerts in the United States. But she said the threats had been "blown out of proportion." Tuesday's night's threat stopped the concert shortly before the doomy, buxom 37-year-old star was due to go on stage.

The opening act, Canadian singer Bruce Murray, had already sung several songs when a voice announced over the sound system 26 minutes after the show began: "Ladies and gentlemen, the Dominion Theater has

received an anonymous call."

About 2,000 concertgoers streamed in orderly fashion from the theater in London's West End and were directed to assembly points along Tottenham Court Road by scores of police men and women. Miss Parton went to a nearby hotel.

Scotland Yard bomb squad officers with dogs trained to sniff out explosives combed the theater and when they gave the all-clear, the audience filed back in. When the show resumed, Miss Parton received a standing ovation as she entered the auditorium from the rear and marched down the center aisle.

The concert was the last of three that she has given in London that attracted rave reviews from London critics. Peter Holt, music critic of *The Evening Standard* newspaper, said Tuesday she was "a superbly professional performer."

BRIEFS

ST. OMER, Northern France, (AFP) — Six youths beat another to death "just for fun" they told police here Wednesday. The six, aged from 18 to 22, had the reputation of being Saturday night "bully boys" in the region, causing trouble in dance halls and bistros (cafes). Last Saturday, after being thrown out of a cafe they attacked Francois Pecqueur, 19 and a 16-year-old friend. The friend saw them chase Pecqueur and beat him mercilessly with their fists until he fell to the ground. Then they kicked him repeatedly. The friend was chased, beaten up, and thrown into a river. But he managed to clamber out and in hospital identified his attackers. "We didn't mean to kill anyone. It was just for fun," they told police when they were charged with manslaughter.

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Some of the Americans listed as missing in Vietnam may have chosen to stay there, President Ronald Reagan said here Tuesday. When asked during an interview whether he thought certain Americans were still living in Vietnam, he replied that he did not think the possibility

could be excluded. It was the first time that President Reagan alluded to such a possibility. Nearly 2,500 Americans are still listed as missing in Vietnam, the president recalled.

HARARE (R) — A major Harare hospital is being plagued by body hunters, small time unofficial undertakers, the government information service reported. "They have come to be known as the death dealers as their business thrives on dead bodies," it said in a press handout. The dealers, who have mushroomed over the city, visit Harare hospital every morning and their first question to attendants is "how many dead today?" it reported. "These people have no morals. Sometimes they walk into the wards during visiting times looking for seriously ill patients. Then they offer funeral services before the person is even dead," said hospital administrator Margaret Chidzonga.

VITORIA, Spain (AFP) — Prisoners belonging to the Basque separatist organization ETA ended a mutiny early Wednesday morning at the Nanclares de la Oca Prison near Vitoria, freeing a number of guards they

U.S. agent looks back at shooting

WASHINGTON, March 30 (AP) — If secret service agents had just had the chance to "look into the face of John Hinckley," on that day two years ago, they could well have prevented the shooting of President Reagan, says the man who led the protective detail.

"I have a feeling — I've always felt this, and it's what the agents know — is that the eyes are the windows to the soul," agent Jerry Parr said in an interview with high school students from across the country. "If you look at the agents working around the president when he is shaking hands, they'll be looking at faces, eyes and hands. These are very, very critical."

"We didn't have that opportunity that day," two years ago Wednesday, Parr continued. "But it is one human being looking into the eyes of another that is the best detector."

Reagan was struck in the chest by a single .22-caliber bullet and collapsed as he was escorted into the George Washington University Hospital. At one point he was close to death as surgeons struggled to find the bullet and patch a punctured lung. Press secretary James Brady was hit in the brain and is still recovering. Agent Timothy McCarthy and police officer Thomas Delahanty were also wounded, but, like Reagan, have fully recovered.

Hinckley has been confined to a federal mental hospital since last year, when he was acquitted in the Reagan shooting by reason of insanity.

U.K. allows Poles' stay

LONDON, March 30 (AP) — Thirty-one Polish vacationers who slipped off a cruise ship here two weeks ago would be allowed to stay for a year, the government announced Tuesday.

Home Secretary William Whitelaw made the announcement shortly before a debate was starting in the House of Lords on the March 16 deportation of Romanian Stanco Papsoulu.

The Poles allowed to stay were among 390 passengers on a Polish cruise ship *Stefan Batory* which docked two weeks ago at Tilbury, east of London on the River Thames.

Some headed by train to London, and others disappeared.

Whitelaw made it clear the visas for the *Stefan Batory* passengers did not signal an open-door immigration policy for East Europeans.

Whitelaw said the Poles could stay because they might "not have been aware" that immigration policies relaxed after Poland's Dec. 1981 martial law were tightened March 9.

had held hostage since Tuesday evening. They gave up when they were assured that they would not be punished and that there would be an end to the policy of transfers against which they were protesting by taking the hostages, reliable sources reported. They rebelled when an ETA man was transferred to the Basauri Prison near Bilbao.

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow is experiencing its warmest March weather since records began over a century ago, Tass news agency reported Wednesday. Daytime temperatures this week have been around 12 Celsius (54 Fahrenheit), two degrees Celsius higher than the previous record for this time of year, it said.

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, California (AFP) — a satellite launched Monday to help airplanes and ships in distress is having trouble in orbit but should be repaired within 10 days, a spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said here. The "Sarsat" satellite, which cost \$53 million is a joint U.S., French and Canadian project.

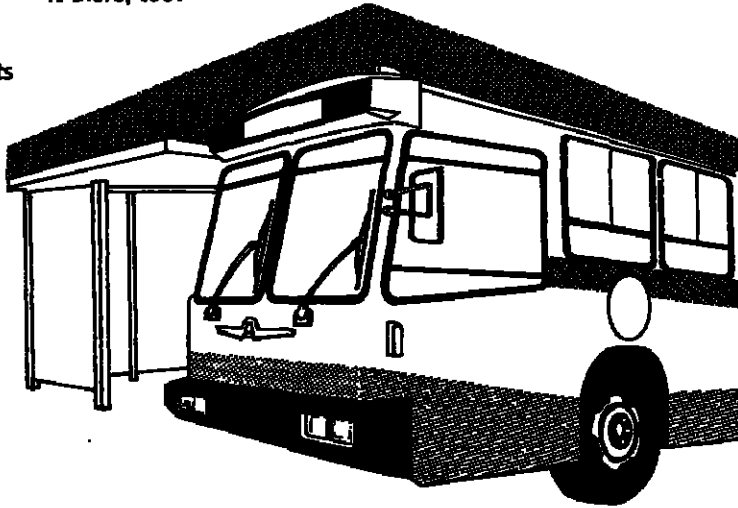
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محكمة القضاء

Stifle initiative in simple matters

Computers turning men orderly puppets

By Muhammad Haseebullah

JEDDAH — 1982 has been the year of computer journalism. Almost all periodicals, newspapers and tabloids, both major and minor, throughout the world carried cover stories on the advancement of computer technology. They include *Reader's Digest*, *International Management*, *Newsweek* and many others. *Time* magazine went a step further and instead of declaring the "man of the year" as they normally do at the conclusion of each year, last year's honor was given to machines with computer declared as the "machine of the year" on the basis of an opinion poll. Taking the cue from the *Time*, many magazines followed with their own opinion polls and computer came out a strong contender against most of the world personalities.

Opinion polls do certainly have their own importance, but as H. Matusow puts it, cheerful obedience to the computer leads to worse performance by society. It makes it easier for dictators to accomplish their ends. It brings a lessening of freedom. Being loyal to the computer means selling out... The computer is there only to serve man — not to be served by him. There is no denying the fact that losing of human identity for the sake of new technological advancement and fascination for new scientific inventions is definitely stretching the principle of positive thinking a bit too far.

This is not to belittle the significance, vitality and importance of computer technology and its revolutionary effects on present-day society. But dissipating human capabilities in a maze of computer print-outs, digital glow, electronic miniaturization and complex computerization is absurd. No doubt, 20th century would go down in the annals of history as a victorious era of computer technology. Its significant impact is already felt in our lives today. Computers can now accept any command that human minds can think of. From banks, companies to homes, more and more people are becoming fascinated by computer technology and truly so. For with the introduction of the personal computers like the Apple Computer, we now need not be dependent on the experts for our tax returns, domestic budgeting and all other accounting work. It's learned that in France, home computers, have already started performing jobs from domestic shopping to telephone directory tracing.

In developing countries the trend toward computerizing is fast catching up. Banking by computer is also in vogue, notwithstanding the fact that a man in the U.S. succeeded in breaking the computer codes of a leading bank and got a tidy sum transferred to his name.

Discussions on the merits and demerits of the computer would make lengthy reading. The idea of comparing the computer to humans and the insane earnest of computerizing every job is what really needs a second thought. It is widely agreed that the 20th century with its high technological advancement, management practices and industrialization has reduced us to being a programmed automation. Dr. Laurence Peter asserts that "we have been made puppets or to be more precise processionary puppets, to go through the motions of living, punching cards, filling forms and carrying out meaningless rituals". Computers have added to the existing forces which contribute to the growing automation of mankind. *International Management* in its cover story on "humanizing the computer" has highlighted quite a few facts about the limitations of a computer. It stated that "the computer is unable to sense what is wanted without completely accurate and exhaustive instructions".

Computers too are vulnerable to incompetence, they seldom make a mistake of their own. Computers are helplessly dependent on the reliability of the information



and instructions fed into them. For example: a key punch operator may make a mistake and you will receive a domestic telephone bill of S.R. 8,000/- for the month of January, when you were away on vacation. Unfortunately, the computer has no way of knowing that the key punch operator had a temporary lapse or that you were on vacation.

M. Meacham states "computers are fantastic — in a few minutes they can make a mistake so great that it would take many men many months to equal it". In companies more and more executives are going in for the computer, if for no other reason than that it advertises that the company is a modern sophisticated and advanced organization. As a result the computer's memory banks and lightning quick circuitry challenge man's limited quantity of valid data. The quality of data gradually deteriorates, new formats are devised, unnecessary information and calculations are fed resulting in the usual phenomena of Trash In Trash Out (TITO) method.

The capability of the computer outstrips our ability to use it wisely. Thus bureaucrats keep themselves busy devising, designing

elaborate forms to feed the computer and collect vast amount of irrelevant matter. How rightly H. Thoreau exclaims, "Lo! Men have become the tools of their tools".

It's generally assumed that the computer was created in the image of man. It is supposed to be the prototype of the human brain. But should we forget that the human brain is not composed of articulately defined circuits, silicon wafers and transistors? Our brains are soggy computers containing dynamic chemical effects. Can a computer be stimulated by the sight of a beautiful scene or feel the pathos of a friend or such internal stimuli as a humanistic impulse or quiet contemplation. The technician in a computer is to develop a type of tunnel vision of statistical empirical-digital-thinking. Comprehensive value judgment requires an in-depth analysis and sustained mental effort which a computer cannot provide.

Modern computers are replacing the use of many a simple thing which we used to perform and enjoy performing them. Computers have entered every phase of human activity. While we should be grateful for these mercies we ought to keep in mind that

overdependence on computers would create a new generation of bureaucrats and office workers who would be even less competent than their predecessors. As J. Krutch puts it, "as machines get to be more and more like men, men will come to be more and more like machines".

Performance of simple tasks would also become tedious for us if we do not check the misuse and application of the computer. Due to the vast sphere of technological advancement, we are losing a measure of control of the simplest tasks of life. We are being humbled by helpless dependence on complex technology. "Machines which originally made life easy for us may eventually make life impossible." Thus overdependence on computers may enslave us to the extent that we may become incompetent to do the simplest of tasks which we once did ourselves.

It's good to remember Rudyard Kipling's words when he makes machines address men thus: "Though our smoke may hide the heavens from your eyes, it will vanish and the stars will shine again; because, for all our power and weight and size, we are nothing more than children of your brain".

Malaysia worried over rural exodus

By Dilip Mukherjee

KUALA LUMPUR (Depthnews) — Malaysia is faced with an acute dilemma: the faster it reclaims land from the jungle to extend its agricultural base, the quicker is the loss of land in the already inhabited areas as farmers abandon their holdings in search of a better life.

At the last count, such abandoned land totaled 880,000 hectares or about one-quarter of the total area cultivated in the country. Another dimension of the problem is highlighted by the fact that the area left idle in this manner exceeds the 866,000 virgin hectares that was brought under the plow during the 1970's at a cost of \$1.7 billion. In this sphere, it seems it is running fast only to stand still.

There is no doubt that Malaysia needs to reduce the numbers still engaged in agriculture — about 41 percent now against 51 percent in 1970. A recent study, shows, for instance, that there are three adults in a typical farming household in the Muda valley, the country's rice bowl. Since the average farm size is around 1.7 hectares, the number each has to support must fall if incomes are to rise.

Passionate advocates of social justice argue on this basis for fairer distribution of land. Concentration of ownership is a problem in Malaysia as in other developing countries but the point to note is that the mean size of the largest farms in Muda is as little as 4.5 hectares. Spreading out ownership will make for much less change in Malaysia than in, say, India or Pakistan where economists quite rightly attach high priority to land reform.

The overall situation in Malaysia is best pictured by official statistics revealing a rising trend in underemployment in rural areas. Defined to cover those with less than 25 hours of work per week, the number has doubled in recent years. Taking both the unemployed and underemployed together, the proportion is over 9 percent. In other words, one in every 10 needs to be found a job or more gainful employment.

There is, however, a curious anomaly in the Malaysian situation in that many jobs are going begging in rural areas, the shortage compelling plantations and even the small holders to rely upon the labor of illegal immigrants.

In mid-1981, a survey of plantations showed that jobs waiting to be taken up amounted to over 7 percent of the total. Another investigation, focused on small holdings, revealed a shortfall of over 9 percent.

The Rubber Research and Development Board is a body much concerned with the effects of such shortages on output: one of its officials, Dr. Lim Sow Ching, says that in severely labor-short areas like Johor (next-door to Singapore, and subject therefore, to its pull for "guest" workers), immigrant workers constitute "over 90 percent of the workforce".

There is thus a seeming paradox: lands left idle while the government digs deep into its pockets to develop new land to alleviate the problem of land hunger; jobs left unfilled while the absolute number of jobless keeps on rising even though the proportion to the total is going down.

This paradox is not the result of any perversity; there are good economic and social reasons for it. Basically, land is left idle because it is too small to yield a reasonable minimum income. In many cases, the title to the land is not clear. Inheritance laws may have vested the land in several owners who are not interested in subdividing it (because the total is too small) and not inclined either to relinquish their rights in favor of any of the co-owners.

The problem of titles may explain why there is no orderly renting out of such unused

land. And as long as the title is in dispute, government agencies (like the Rubber Industry Smallholder Development Authority) cannot provide the grants they make for rehabilitating and upgrading land. Without this help, the odds against making a living out of small plots are even heavier.

It is likely that the problem will get worse. Official surveys show that two-thirds of the children of estate workers, and the same proportion of children of small holders, wish to seek employment opportunities in towns. This preference in the case of estate children is at odds with the fact, as Dr. Lim points out, that "jobs with higher incomes were available on the estates".

The problem, as sociologists and trade union keep pointing out, is the lack of amenities offered by estates on what used to be called "coolie lines" in colonial days. Improvements have been made, particularly on the bigger estates with larger resources, but the prevailing standards are out of line with the aspiration level of workers in this relatively prosperous country.

Obviously, the estates will have to try harder if they want to keep their workers. Even though the government is not averse to limited and regulated import of labor, the trade unions look askance at this solution because it may impede the changes they want in wages and working conditions.

As for idle lands, Malaysia is moving toward a two-fold solution. One is to persuade owners to pool their land, and let it be farmed as a miniature plantation with hired supervisors and laborers. This is an idea which Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Muhammad has been trying hard to popularize, and a start has been made on it on a pilot scale. The pooling owners can offer themselves for hire to the group farm or move where better opportunities offer.

The idea is not without its critics. Shukur Kassim of the Center for Policy Research at the University in Penang says that the group farms will in fact be no different from estate farms, with all decisions being taken by government-appointed staff. He feels that over-heads and operating expenses are high; and hence they have had to be subsidized "rather heavily".

In any case, with returns from the group farm being apportioned according to the amount of land contributed by each participant, the idea does nothing to redistribute incomes which Shukur and other academics advocate.

The criticisms are not to be taken lightly, specially those relating to returns from such operations. But it is not really pertinent to raise the issue of income redistribution in this context. The basic purpose of the exercise is to bring resources left idle (namely land) or underutilized (namely manpower) into better use, but not necessarily on the farm itself in regard to the latter.

The second line of approach Malaysian policy-makers are thinking of is to find some way of preventing fragmentation of land from one generation to another. In the case of virgin lands, plots will no longer be assigned to individual farmers on an ownership basis. Forms of leasing, or group ownership, are to be tried out with no rights to subdivision through inheritance.

Also under consideration is a change in the law to set a lower limit on the size of an operational holding. This will mean that land accruing to an individual through inheritance cannot be operated by him if its size falls below the limit, and would, therefore, have to be leased out to another tenant or a last-resort government agency.

This is the compromise solution being worked out by the government understandably reluctant to tamper with inheritance laws — some of them based on the Shari'a — in this Islamic country.

New drugs offer glimmer of hope to treat senility

By Paul Jacobs

LOS ANGELES (LAT) — Two drugs appear to improve mental function in some patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease, a relentlessly progressive and untreatable form of senility that affects as many as 500,000 persons in America alone, according to a series of reports in a recent issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The teams of scientists who tested the drugs are nevertheless guarded in their assessment of the medications — Naloxone, a drug regularly used to revive heroin addicts after an overdose, and physostigmine, a chemical agent employed for more than a century to treat the eye disease glaucoma. However, while the numbers of patients tested were small, the modest improvements held up even when neither the physician nor patient knew whether the patient had been given the real drug or a placebo, a harmless substitute unlikely to have an effect on its own.

Some scientists believe that the findings offer the first glimmer of real hope for treating the major cause of senility, one that can strike individuals in their early 50s and contribute to the death of 100,000 each year, in the United States alone.

But more skeptical researchers point out that there is still little agreement about how the disease begins. And they note that while the two drugs may have some effect, neither does enough to change the lives of patients markedly, and neither is likely to stop brain cells from dying as the disease progresses with predictably devastating results.

The more surprising of the two drugs is Naloxone, which was tested on seven Alzheimer's patients at New York University Medical Center.

The drug, used in emergency rooms to pull overdose victims from comas, works by blocking the effects of opiates.

Scientists at a number of centers have shown that the human brain produces natural, opiate-like chemicals of its own, called endorphins. And it happens that the dying cells that have been associated with

Alzheimer's disease are located in regions of the brain rich in nerve cells that produce those opiate-like chemicals.

In 1980, one of the New York University scientists, Dr. Barry Reisberg, proposed testing Naloxone in Alzheimer's patients. And a year later, Eugene Roberts, Chairman of the neurosciences department at the City of Hope in Duarte, California came up with a detailed theory that explained Alzheimer's as a failure of one group of nerve cells to regulate another. He speculated that each dying cell was like "a race horse running out of control for five miles" — to keep a cell alive required "pulling in the reins" to restore control. And based on his assessment of the complex circuitry of the brain, Roberts guessed that blocking the natural opiates in the brain with Naloxone would be a way of restoring control over the dying cells and

perhaps reviving them.

Roberts admitted in a recent interview that the theory may ultimately prove to be "scientifically all wet," but it provided encouragement to Reisberg and his associates at New York University to begin their trial of the drug.

The patients chosen all had moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease. As a group, the seven patients showed some improvement on simple tests of mental function after a weekly dose of Naloxone.

"These are preliminary, encouraging results and they remain only preliminary and only encouraging... until they can be repeated," Reisberg said in a recent interview.

The team of investigators was especially surprised to find that the subjective effects of the drug seemed to last for several days after the injection. "Why that should be the case

we don't know," Reisberg said.

The effects of oral doses of the second drug, physostigmine are less surprising. Dr. Kenneth L. Davis, who headed the research group testing physostigmine at the Bronx Veterans Administration Medical Center, had earlier shown that the injectable form of the drug could have short-term effects on Alzheimer's patients.

But the requirement for frequent injections each day to achieve even small improvements in some patients made the use of the drug in treatment appear impractical. The new tests showed that the oral form of the drug could work as well.

Davis' group found that several of the 13 patients studied showed improvement on certain tests of memory but in only two cases was the gain "clinically meaningful." Those two individuals were less disoriented and generally behaved more appropriately than before, but they "remained quite demented," according to the *New England Journal* report.

A separate study of patients at New York's Albert Einstein College of Medicine also showed that the oral drug could result in modest improvements in memory, but the indications are that physostigmine "is not going to be a clinically effective drug," said Einstein's Dr. Leon Thal. "It's not going to improve functioning in daily living."

However, the results are important, Thal said, because they show for the first time that drug therapy can have an effect on the brain of Alzheimer's patients.

Unlike Naloxone, which appears to have side effects only at the highest doses, physostigmine can cause a host of problems, including nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

The results of testing both drugs "are the first glimmers of rational (therapy) for the disorder, which heretofore had no effective treatment," said Dr. Joseph Coyle, a professor at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

He and others think that the research with Alzheimer's is comparable to the beginning studies two decades ago of Parkinsonism, another progressive brain disease, that now can be treated with reasonable success with modern medication.

STOP KILLING YOURSELF

NEXT WEEK
Dr. Peter J. Steincrohn discusses

Saturday, April 2
Dr. Steincrohn believes that until there is definite proof that vitamin E will prevent heart attacks, it's a waste of money. Persons who are sincerely concerned about ways to prevent a heart attack should take honest inventory and look for ways to improve their way of life through diet and tension reduction.

Sunday, April 3
Too many become abnormally introspective about their diets. Best advice: the fundamentals of good nutrition are simple. You need to eat moderate amounts of a wide variety of food from each basic food group.

Monday, April 4
While studies to determine the causes, effects and prevention of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome), are mounting, another important need is apparent: minimizing the trauma experienced by the family when sudden infant death syndrome occurs.

Tuesday, April 5
From 8 to 12 percent of Americans suffer from migraine headaches. In producing the attack, arteries in the head first constrict; then they dilate. As the arteries stretch they create pain in the adjacent nerve-endings. Fatigue, emotional stress, hormone imbalance, reaction to stress and some types of food trigger attacks.

Wednesday, April 6
Since the 1930s electric shock treatment has been greatly improved. New methods of anesthesiology have lessened complications with use of muscle relaxants.



SOLAR ENERGY: These are no fluorescent light tubes but an array of solar collector tubes forming the essential part of a simple, self-sufficient system for harnessing the sun's heat to drive irrigation pumps in the Egyptian desert. This generator was developed at Britain's Cranfield Institute of Technology in collaboration with the Egyptian government whose Col. Mohey Hussein is checking one of the tubes.

arab news

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THE OIL SLICK

The latest offshoot of the tragic war between Iraq and Iran is an oil slick said to be the size of Belgium which threatens to pollute the whole Gulf region if left unchecked and if the damaged wells are not capped.

Not content with the destruction of the economies of the two nations, the war has raised its terrible price to include oil wells spewing pollution and other possible hazards. Isn't it time to stop fighting and reconsider the enormity of the tragedy that has descended on the region?

Iraq has repeatedly declared its readiness to talk about ending the war and has sent several feelers signaling its sincere desire to terminate the conflict which has claimed thousands of lives and severely damaged the once flourishing economies of the two countries.

Unfortunately, the Iranian regime does not seem to be able to extricate itself from the vicious circle in which it landed because the internal situation is so bad that the war is urgently and continuously needed to provide the necessary external distraction. Without it, the regime may face difficulties and may have done so already had the war not flared up nearly three years ago.

This is one alarming example of a regime adhering to a large scale war in order to hold its internal front together, no matter what the price.

Maybe the slick, which could conceivably lead to a partial truce, will convince the Iranian government — assuming that there is one in the accepted sense of the word — to rethink the whole issue of the war.

SOMALIAN BAN ON QAT

It may not have attracted much international attention but the decision of the Somali government to ban the consumption of qat is of great significance because it seeks to liberate the Somalis from addiction to a very dangerous habit.

Qat is a narcotic of sorts which grows extensively in Ethiopia, North Yemen and, to some extent, South Yemen. It is chewed over long hours because it produces a kind of euphoria — caused by amphetamines — that leads to a false feeling of well-being. It is also costly to acquire.

South Yemen has already banned consumption except on weekends. Anyone chewing or holding it on other days faces imprisonment and fine or both.

North Yemen has no legislation against it because it is so widely grown, traded in, and used, that it will require a long program of action to get rid of it. There are simply too many beneficiaries in this business to permit fast and effective action. But President Ali Saleh is said to be contemplating making things difficult for the consumers and addicts in the near future.

President Siad Barre of Somalia has done wonderfully by banning this exceedingly bad habit. He has also dealt a blow to his arch-enemy Ethiopia which used to export qat to his country via neighboring Djibouti where qat is also permitted.



Barre firmly in saddle despite serious unrest

By Bernard Edinger

MOGADISHU — Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre, consummate survivor among African heads of state, still appears firmly in power after weathering crises including a lost war with arch-enemy Ethiopia and switches of East-West loyalty.

Such is the analysis of most Western embassies in Mogadishu, where the 64-year-old former army general has held power since a bloodless coup in 1969. President Siad Barre managed to remain at the helm of his volatile and impoverished country despite losing the 1977-78 war against Ethiopia and facing serious unrest at various times from Muslim extremists, restive tribesmen and elements within his own army.

The best proof of his political skill, diplomats say, was how he emerged unscathed after swinging his country from an alliance with the West to one with the Soviet bloc and then swinging back to the Western fold.

Although both domestic and foreign-based opposition exists, the diplomats believe the only

real threat could come from undetected groups of disgruntled military. None was visible at present, they added.

Speaking to Reuters in Mogadishu last week, the tall and relaxed Somali leader brushed aside the notion of a strong opposition, describing internal dissidents as "a few shouting individuals" and those outside the country as "stooges of Ethiopia." It is difficult to gauge what strength, if any, his opponents can muster. When asked whether they presented any threat, President Siad Barre said "you have walked around Mogadishu. Have you seen anything amiss? Do you see soldiers at each corner like in other capitals?"

The answer is no and sleepy Mogadishu can hardly be described as tense, although a small bomb exploded outside the Italian Embassy last month without causing serious damage or casualties.

Responsibility was claimed by the Ethiopian-backed Somali Salvation Democratic Front which is clearly angered at Italian support to President Siad Barre's regime. Some Western diplomats said the saboteurs were caught and admitted having been

trained by Libyan officers before being infiltrated across the border from Ethiopia.

Mogadishu, sprawled along beautiful white beaches on the Indian Ocean, is one of the most relaxed capitals in East Africa. But it does not represent the entire country. Discretion in politics is a safe rule because nearly a decade of heavy Soviet presence spawned a formidable security apparatus. Some Somalis speak, only in jest, about "the walls having ears."

A grim reminder that politics here is played for keeps is a 20-meter high sand dune just off the road to the airport. Behind it is the site where executions of political opponents have taken place in the past. Popular feeling in the rugged north of the country, along the Gulf of Aden next to the Horn of Africa, is hard to assess.

Hargeisa, capital of the former British Somaliland, has been the scene of several anti-government demonstrations over the past year, yet the president received an enthusiastic welcome when he visited the area several weeks ago. Northern Somaliland is also the home of the powerful Issaq tribe, said to be the dominating position in the country of the

Marehan and Ogaden tribes.

The president is a Marehan by his father and Ogaden by his mother and such tribal connections are all-important in Somalia. Even though tribes and their sub-clans squabble endlessly, Somalia is one of the rare African states with an overall ethnic homogeneity.

The Somali language is spoken throughout the country and the whole population is Muslim. Many Somalis dream of the unification of all their kinsmen including those living across the border, although international pronouncements on this are now very much muted.

Officially, Somalia no longer has claims to Kenya's northeast province, inhabited almost exclusively by ethnic Somalis, or to Djibouti, where half the population are Issa tribesmen. On the issue of the Ogaden, cause of the war with Ethiopia, Somalia contends that the region was wrested from it at the time of colonial conquests in Africa. During the 1977-78 war, hundreds of thousands of refugees fled to Somalia, whose official position is that it wants self-determination for the region and its people. (R)

Reagan's advisers divided over anti-missile system

By Jeffrey Avelly

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's advisers are divided over his controversial proposal to move away from nuclear deterrence in favor of an anti-missile system (ABM), according to senior administration officials.

But Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger apparently played a key role in bringing the idea to Reagan's attention several weeks before the president publicly embraced it, they said. The officials who briefed reporters on the ABM plan last week said some senior advisers had argued unsuccessfully against including it in Reagan's televised speech on defense issues Wednesday. Some of these aides had pointed out shortcomings of the proposal and argued that it might detract from an appeal for higher defense spending, which they viewed as the major purpose of the speech.

Among the issues they raised was the likelihood of critics charging that an ABM system would violate several treaties and would create the impression

of abandoning U.S. allies in favor of a "Fortress America."

And some Pentagon arms experts have raised serious questions about the feasibility and cost of defending Americans against a Soviet missile attack. But Reagan decided to go ahead with the speech, coupling his call for an intensive scientific search for protection against nuclear missiles with a defense of his proposed \$245 billion military budget for next year.

The president told reporters last week the idea had been "kicking around in my mind for some time," and he brought it up at a meeting with the joint chiefs of staff several weeks ago. But senior officials said the military chiefs had raised the subject at a meeting with Reagan, and Weinberger, who was present, knew in advance that they planned to do so.

Asked if the military chiefs had taken their lead from the defense secretary, a Pentagon official replied: "Nothing comes out of here that doesn't have his imprimatur on it."

He added: "It certainly wasn't an issue that was

raised by the chiefs that hadn't already been discussed by him and that had his support."

The president tried in his speech to answer criticism in advance, denying that research on an ABM system without deploying one would violate treaty obligations and strongly reaffirming the U.S. commitment to deter a nuclear attack on the allies. The charge of violating treaties including the 1972 ABM pact was made later by the Soviet news agency Tass among others. But most domestic criticism focused on Reagan's call for a military build-up to match Moscow's "margin of superiority" rather than on the ABM proposal.

In the official Democratic Party response to the speech, made public Friday Senator Daniel Inouye said: "The president attempted to instill fear in the hearts of the American people, to raise the specter of a Soviet armed nuclear attack, and to divert our attention from the dismal failure of his economic policies." Indeed, he left the impression that the United States is at the mercy of the Soviet Union. Most respectfully, Mr. president, you know that is not true.

Many scientists and defense experts criticized the proposed anti-missile system, and several recalled that some of Reagan's own Pentagon advisers seriously questioned the idea in congressional testimony recently. For example, Robert Cooper, director of advanced defense research projects, told a hearing: "We need basic ... breakthroughs in the ability to manage complex systems before any such system might be feasible in the future." In other testimony, he estimated the cost of an ABM network at \$200 billion to \$300 billion.

Richard Delauer, undersecretary of defense for research and planning, told a congressional committee the cost and time needed to deploy an ABM would be very high. But officials told Reuters Cooper's and Delauer's boss, Weinberger, had been thinking about missile defense since he took office more than two years ago.

The defense secretary was applauded enthusiastically last month at a conference of conservatives who have supported him strongly in the past, many of whom were wearing badges backing an ABM scheme known as "High Frontier." (R)

Middle course takes Communist China closer to Soviets

By Brian Eads

HONG KONG — Will Ron calm his mercurial young Chinese bride, or will she sue for divorce and elope with old flame Yuri? And what's to become of Ron's beloved mistress, Taiwan?

The superpower mating game in this part of the world has come to resemble a soap opera. Last week's shrill accusations of infidelity were carried from Peking to Washington. In Moscow, Russian and Communist Chinese matchmakers met for their second ice-breaking session in six months. There was no dramatic breakthrough but it was a "beneficial" meeting.

Significant realignments are indeed taking place, attitudes and trends are hardening and the consequences could be far reaching. Peking's latest complaint is that rather than reducing arms sales to Taiwan, as agreed in the Shanghai MK2 communiqué last August, America is increasing them. Projected sales for this year are \$800 million, for next year \$780 million. This compares with \$600 million last year.

The issue is important to the Communist leaders, not least because they dare not leave themselves open to accusations from domestic rivals that they are further compromising the mystically charged goal of "national reunification." Americans loyal to Taiwan, who include many of President Reagan's closest advisers, argue that, along with "face," that well-known Chinese preoccupation, and an attempt to bamboozle Washington, "palace politics" are behind Peking's "outrage."

"Chinese words are threatening but are given less and less weight," I was told by a knowledgeable

Western source in Taipei last month. When Peking downgraded relations with Holland for contracting to sell submarines to Taiwan two years ago, it was interpreted, in the words of the Chinese proverb, as "killing the chicken to frighten the monkey." The monkey was undaunted. "The issue is: can America have both China and Taiwan? Europeans have discovered that they can."

Taiwan, for its part, has helped dish U.S. congressional critics by cleaning up its human rights act, and in June plans to open Green Island, home for its political prisoners, to tourists. The ties that bind Washington to Taipei remain more numerous, stronger and more profitable than those woven with Peking. American businessmen's dreams of a billion hamburger-munching Chinese have been disappointed, and a new U.S. congressional study predicts that Communist China's imports will be cut back further as over-ambitious growth plans founder.

China's leaders are no strangers to diplomatic maneuvering but there is more than imposture in their complaint over arms sales. Arms-dealing is the provocative tip of an iceberg of misunderstanding, disillusion and distrust between the two.

There is the bitter dispute over Peking's textile exports, the U.S. court ruling that Peking should pay debts dating from the Qing dynasty, the withholding of U.S. export licenses for high-tech equipment, Washington's support for Taiwan's seat on the Asian Development Bank, and its refusal to return the defecting teenage tennis starlet Hu Na. The American contribution to China's paramount goals — modernization and reunification — has been half-hearted in spirit as well as in letter. The

price U.S. strategists hoped to charge, that Peking should draw Soviet fire in Asia, is adjudged too high.

Peking's despairing of the Reagan administration need not preclude a return to cozy intimacy with Moscow. Indeed Peking has expended more energy in re-establishing its credentials in the Third World. Neither does it mean that it is merely "playing the Soviet card" to further frighten "the monkey" into concessions. But Peking's foreign policy is no longer framed by ideology or long-term strategic alliances. The aim now is to steer a middle course informed by self-interest.

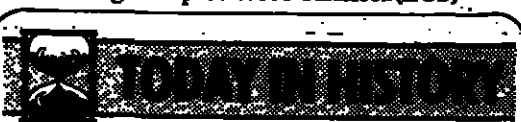
Beneficial links with the United States, notably in the development of China's oil and coal reserves, can continue. Meanwhile, there is nothing to be lost in seeking to improve relations with Moscow. On the contrary, Russia could furnish the tranquility needed for modernization, as well as a level of technology and expertise more appropriate to Peking's level of development and markets for Chinese exports.

The hurdles are formidable — Cambodia, Afghanistan, one million Soviet troops on China's border and more than two decades of intense hostility. But the rhetoric has mellowed, and already in trade, sport, cultural and educational exchanges, the normalization process has begun. Hungary and East Germany, whose prosperity is admired by many Chinese planners, are in the van of even more markedly improved relations with Eastern Europe.

The quantity and quality of Soviet might targeted on China remains unchanged. It comprises a third of Soviet submarines, a quarter of Soviet ground forces, a third of the Soviet navy, a quarter of her

tactical aircraft and missiles and a third of her strategic aircraft and missiles.

Even a partial withdrawal could shift the balance of terror dramatically. Stay tuned and learn whether, in the event, Japan, Washington's next strategic sweetheart in Asia, proves less demure than she'd have us believe, and surrenders her well-learned virtue to the Pentagon in the interests of restoring that precarious balance. (LOS)



Today is Thursday, March 31, the 90th day of 1983. There are 275 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1683 — Poland forms alliance with Roman empire against Turks.

1854 — U.S. Commodore Perry makes first treaty with Japan, opening two Japanese ports to trade with outside world.

1885 — Britain proclaims protectorate over North Bechuanaland, ending Stelland Republic in South Africa.

1889 — The Eiffel Tower is opened in Paris.

1905 — German Kaiser William II's visit to Tangier sets off first Moroccan crisis.

1936 — Britain and France pledge to support Poland if it is invaded.

1942 — Japanese successes in Burma and Andaman Islands in World War II threaten India's east coast.

1948 — U.S. Congress passes Marshall aid pact for European recovery.

1955 — Peking's Communist Party begins purge.

1964 — Revolt breaks out against government of Brazil's President Joao Goulart.

1970 — Count Karl von Sprei, West Germany's ambassador to Guatemala, is kidnapped in that nation and he is slain April 5.

1977 — Friendship treaty is signed by Soviet Union and former Portuguese territory of Mozambique.

1982 — U.S. President Ronald Reagan says he cannot agree to U.S. freeze on nuclear weapons because Soviet Union has — in his words — "a definite margin of superiority" over United States.

Thought for today:

Self conquest is the greatest of victories — Plato, Greek philosopher (about 427 B.C.-347 B.C.).

Mail delays

Sir,
May I seek the help of Arab News to draw the attention of the postal authorities with regard to delays in delivery of mail?

I would like to know why some of our mail, especially those coming from the United States, take more than 15 days to reach us and they have to pass through Dammam post office, instead of being sent directly to Jeddah post office?

Sometimes, the mail already received in Jeddah post office, is forwarded to Dammam post office and then sent back to Jeddah. This entails a lot of delay. The immediate attention of the postal

authorities is requested on this matter.

Beffa G. Raymundo
P.O. Box 1312
Jeddah

Indian postal delays

Sir,
While India has increased its postal rates, there is no improvement in the services, especially in the overseas wing.

It is deplorable that in this supersonic age, it takes days or even weeks for a letter to travel from one country to another. We feel that the overseas postal

service in India is handled by unqualified and untrained hands. To give an illustration, letters meant for Jubail, Dammam, Dhahran, Alkhobar, Rahima and other places located in the eastern provinces of the Kingdom are first sent to Jeddah located some 1,200 kilometers away, while there are direct flights to the eastern provinces from India. This results in unnecessary delays and double handling.

May we request the authorities in India to function with a little more efficiency? Will the Indian Embassy in the Kingdom take up the matter with the ministry in New Delhi?

M. A. Rahman
P.O. Box 607
Al-Jubail

مكتبة الادب

As the great nuclear debate is on U.S. heightens West's sense of vulnerability

By Robert C. Tott

WASHINGTON (LAT) — President Reagan, in calling for the greatest arms buildup in American history, has plunged his country into an urgent and potentially fateful debate over the relative military strength of the two superpowers.

"On balance," Reagan declared last year, "the Soviets have a definite margin of superiority." And last week he denounced criticism of his current defense budget as "the same kind of talk that led the democracies to neglect their defenses in the 1930s and invited the tragedy of World War II."

But is it true that the Soviet Union has gained military superiority over the United States? Does Moscow command a superior arsenal of strategic weapons, from continent-spanning ICBMs to nuclear-armed submarines and bombers? What about intermediate-range nuclear weapons, the equally deadly missiles that could devastate populations bordering the Iron Curtain?

Has the Kremlin grown stronger than the United States and its allies in tanks, troops, artillery and other conventional forces as well? And if it has, what then? What difference does "superiority" make in the Atomic Age? Given the undisputed vastness of American military power, would it matter if the Soviets were stronger? Is Reagan's call for more defense spending just a call for more "overkill"?

The answers to these questions are not simple or clear-cut, but they have far-reaching consequences: they involve questions of national security and survival, and they affect foreign and domestic policy issues that touch the lives of virtually all Americans.

Already, the debate touched off by Reagan's defense buildup has:

— Influenced the content and character of American foreign policy, including the shape of U.S. arms control proposals, Washington's relations with its European allies and the tenor of its dealings with the Kremlin.

— Rekindled conflict over defense policy between the government and the "peace movement," and stimulated a nationwide campaign for a nuclear freeze.

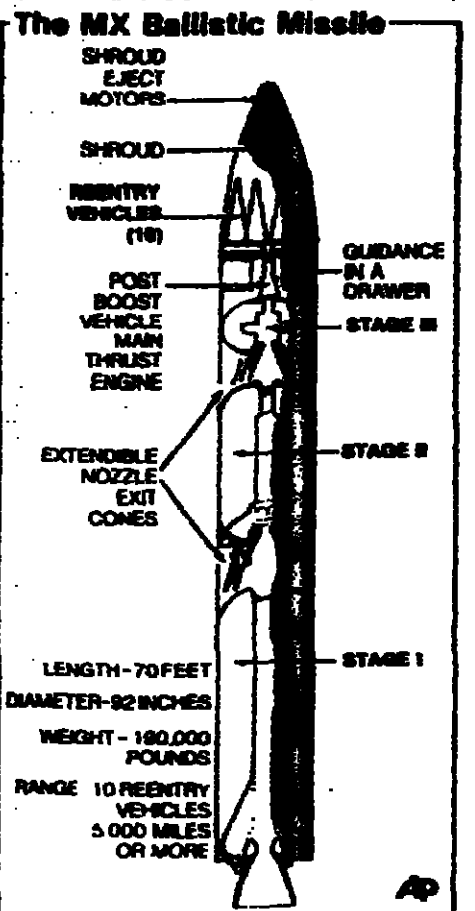
— Intensified fears that increasingly intricate nuclear weapons systems are themselves a greater threat to peace and human survival than the Soviet forces they were built to deter.

One are the days when American nuclear might generally was seen as a positive force in the world, as when President Eisenhower's "nuclear hint" — implicitly threatening to use nuclear weapons — forced an end to the Korean War and overwhelming U.S. superiority as late as 1962, forced Moscow to back down during the Cuban missile crisis.

Today, by contrast, large segments of the European and American populace take no comfort from plans for "restoring" the nuclear balance by adding to and improving the U.S. arsenal. Instead many people now say that more weapons make them feel more vulnerable. And this psychological element has vastly complicated the problems of developing national security policies, even though many specialists believe that it clouds the basic issues.

Yet policy-makers cannot ignore the way people feel, as Reagan has learned in his uphill battle over his defense budget. And even the most dispassionate attempt to assess the military balance between the United States and the Soviet Union is extremely difficult because of the large diversity of weapons systems in different quantities and capabilities on both sides.

Measuring the balance on offensive strategic nuclear forces alone poses problems because it is like comparing apples and oranges. The Soviet and U.S. forces were each designed to attack the other, each carefully tailored to the very different geographical, industrial and military characteristics of the other. The United States, for instance,

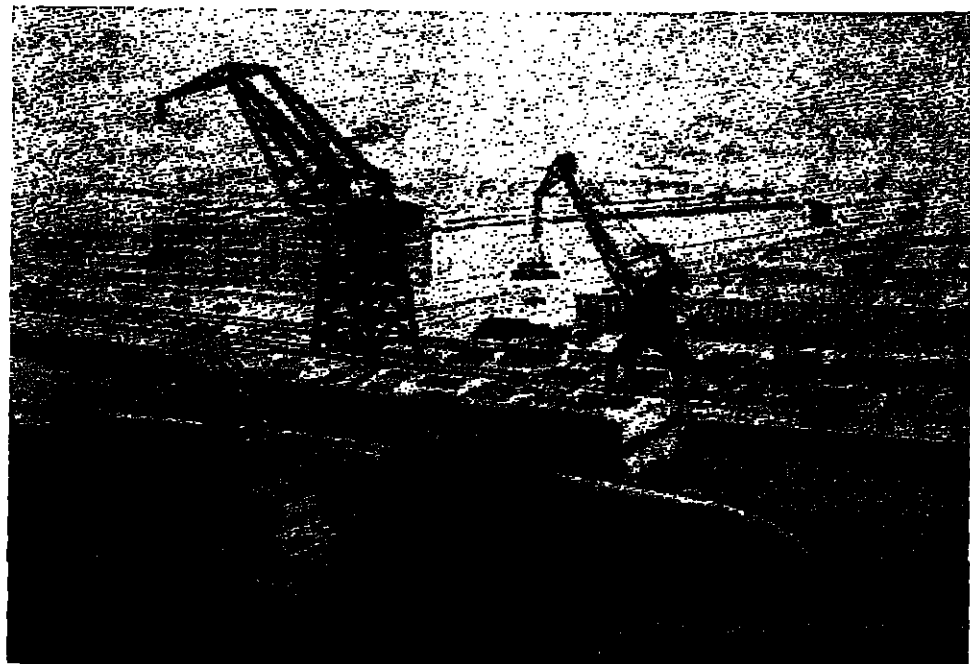


MX MISSILE: A cutaway drawing of MX missile.

Under such a plan, MX would not solve the developed sophisticated nuclear submarines in part because — unlike the Soviet Union — it had an abundance of good seaports and a smaller land mass on which to base ICBMs.

Nonetheless, comparisons of long-range nuclear weapons systems — intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) and bombers such as the B-52 — have become an accepted way to assess Soviet and American power. Almost 15 years of strategic arms negotiations and agreements have codified this kind of balance sheet.

Of those long-range weapons, ICBMs are widely taken as the primary measure of



SOVIET OSCAR: This drawing of an Oscar-class submarine is from a recently released Pentagon report "Soviet Military Power." The report claims that the submarine capable of firing up to 24 long-range antiship Cruise missiles is under construction at Severodvinsk Shipyard on the White Sea.

superpower strength because they respond fastest (the main U.S. ICBM, was named Minuteman because it can be launched in about one minute) and have the greatest accuracy and lethality.

Many specialists object to the focus on ICBMs, however, because they think that approach overemphasizes the Soviet advantage in this weapon and underplays the value of survivable weapons such as submarine-launched ballistic missiles, which are only slightly slower to launch and almost as accurate. But that does not tell the entire story.

The Soviets have an elaborate air defense system, for example, including 10,000 surface-to-air missiles, 2,500 fighter-interceptor aircraft and 5,000 radar installations. The United States has virtually no air defense system. Intruder aircraft coming over the North Pole are invisible to the aged distant early warning (Dew Line) radar system if they fly under 10,000 feet.

Thus, the United States may be more vulnerable to Soviet bombers than Russia is to American B-52s. And U.S. missile systems, besides being fewer, are much older than Soviet systems. Virtually all 60 Soviet missile-firing submarines have been built within the last 10 years, while all but one of the 32 U.S. subs, the new Trident, are more than 15 years old. Moreover, the Soviets have more ICBMs, with about three times more warheads on them than the United States. Their accuracies are about the same as American missiles but the Soviet ICBM force has three times more lethality.

The Soviets, by targeting two ICBM warheads on each U.S. Minuteman silo, could theoretically destroy 90 percent of the American ICBMs in a surprise attack, it is argued, while the United States, with a much smaller ICBM force, cannot threaten the Soviets with a comparable attack, even theoretically.

The result is the so-called "window of vulnerability" for American ICBMs, which began in 1981-82 and will extend until new U.S. weapons such as the controversial MX are deployed, about 1987 or later.

Those conclusions have been challenged on technical as well as strategic grounds. Disputes range from whether U.S. intelligence has been misled on Soviet capabilities to why Moscow has built such a formidable force that could be used for a surprise attack. Of course administration officials flatly dismiss the skepticism about Soviet missile accuracy and in-flight effects, for example, though they refuse to provide evidence to support their own estimates on grounds of national security.

Beyond this level of charge and rebuttal, the arguments about "superiority" often become subjective, turning from Soviet capabilities to Soviet intentions.

After all the arguments, the consensus that has emerged within the government and among many defense specialists on the outside is that the American ICBM force has become seriously vulnerable and requires attention. But not many experts believe that the MX is the answer to this problem. Some, even contend that "the cure for ICBM vulnerability is worse than the illness." And the critics point out that five years' work has yielded 33 schemes but not one acceptable basing plan for the MX. In ordinary silos it will be just as susceptible to a Soviet surprise attack as Minuteman. In hardened silos, it would become vulnerable as Soviet missile accuracy continues to improve.

There appears, in fact, no way to escape the vulnerability of fixed-base ICBMs without deception or a missile defense system. Hiding each MX missile among empty silos, however, is not only expensive but would probably violate the existing strategic arms agreements, while constructing a ballistic missile defense would clearly violate those agreements, according to some experts.

The continuing controversy on what to do with MX is expected to produce yet another presidential plan that will recommend proceeding on two tracks: basing some 50 to 100 MXs in existing Minuteman silos while, at the same time, beginning development of a small, mobile, single-warhead "Midgetman" ICBM that would be moved around government installations.

Under such a plan, MX would not solve the ICBM vulnerability problem. The Midgetman would, but only in the future. By then, Trident II deployment would have eased the Soviet threat, and the on-going strategic arms reduction talks (START) may have reached some first-round agreement. This means that he vaunted "window of vulnerability" will not have been closed so much as ignored.

Moscow has claimed that intermediate-range nuclear missiles and nuclear-capable aircraft are essentially equal across the Iron Curtain, about 1,000 on each side. The United States claims the Soviets have a 6-1 advantage. London's Institute for Strategic

Studies report for 1982-83 broadly supports the U.S. position.

Longer-range missiles in Western Europe, too, have become the measure of each side's strength, with most focus now on Soviet deployment of mobile, three-warhead SS-20s. The London-based institute counted 315, while the United States says there are 350, with two-thirds of them targeted on West Europe and the rest on China and Japan. In addition, the Soviets still have about 300 of their aged, single-warhead SS-4s and SS-5s, which were deployed in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

In contrast, the United States has no such missiles. British and French forces total 162 missiles, but they are not under NATO jurisdiction. West Germany and other NATO members, concerned about the political threat from the Soviet SS-20 buildup, asked in 1977 for U.S. weapons to redress the balance. The alliance decided to deploy 108 Pershing 2 ballistic missiles and 464 winged Cruise missiles in West Europe starting in December 1983, if Soviet-American negotiations make no progress toward reducing the Soviet force.

President Reagan fully endorsed that decision, made by his predecessor. At the same time, he proposed the so-called "zero-zero"

Europe views the issue in stark political terms

By Jim Hoagland

BONN (WP) — A hard consensus that a new generation of American nuclear missiles will begin to go into Western Europe this year is emerging among leading defense and arms control officials in Bonn, London and Paris, who feel that neither strong Soviet efforts to derail the deployment nor the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva can now halt the movement toward initial deployment.

For many of these officials, the chief question quickly has become the price the countries that accept the missiles will have to pay in civil unrest. The stark posing of this question has shifted the debate over the deployment of ground-launched Cruise and Pershing II missiles to a much deeper level in Europe than the current discussion in Washington over whether, or when, President Reagan will move away from his opening negotiating position of the zero option.

The Reagan proposal calls for canceling American deployment in return for Soviet agreement to dismantle the medium-range missiles that the Russians have targeted on Western Europe. The differences in the tone and topic of the debate on each side of the Atlantic reflect a far more fundamental difference between European and American policy-makers over the nature of the Soviet threat and the best ways to counter it, senior British, West German, French and Italian officials suggested in interviews conducted in allied capitals this month.

The lingering vivid image in Europe of a trigger-happy, nuclear-armed Reagan administration poses as much of an immediate problem for these officials as does the demonstrable Soviet military buildup on their borders. There is a rising tide of concern in Britain and West Germany in particular that rolls a deep reservoir of doubts, criticism and offended pride not adding up to "anti-Americanism" but calling into question American understanding of European problems.

"We are negotiating with public opinion over this deployment," a British official said in a remark echoed strongly in Bonn and to a lesser extent in Paris, "and that is at least as hard and as important as the negotiations the Americans are conducting with the Russians."

The primary concern in Bonn and London at the moment is minimizing the civil disturbance that deployment may bring as the anti-missile movement returns to the streets this spring and summer. The twin fear is that the Russians are pursuing a strategy at Geneva designed to maximize these disturbances, and that hard-line Reaganites are playing into Soviet hands by the continuing demonstration, in this view, of callousness and confusion on arms control.

President Reagan's quick return to anti-Soviet rhetoric — seen by many here as overly bellicose — in the wake of Helmut Kohl's victory in the March 6 national elections in West Germany has posed the problem of public reaction even more acutely for many officials, who fear that Reagan is reading the German results as having settled a public opinion battle that, for them, has only started.

option: canceling deployment of the Pershing and Cruise missiles, if the Soviets dismantle their missile force in Europe. The Kremlin offered to cut its missile force to 162, thus balancing them against the British-French force, if no U.S. missile deployment takes place. Some compromise between the two positions is considered likely this year.

Non-nuclear forces also appear to favor the Soviets, according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Recent U.S. administrations also have claimed a "military spending gap" between the United States and the Soviet Union. Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger, among others, has broadly suggested that the Soviets achieved military superiority by outspending the United States.

The CIA's estimates of Soviet defense spending are criticized for being overly generous in calculating Soviet expenditures. More questionable, many experts believe, has been the way successive administrations have used those estimates to sell their bigger defense budgets to Congress and the public. But in the end, the criticism of spending estimates does not affect the amount of Soviet weapons counted by U.S. reconnaissance and satellites. And in the volume of weapons deployed, there is no denying the fact that overall parity exists in balancing the strategic nuclear weaponry of the Soviet Union and the United States, except for significant Soviet superiority in the key ICBM leg of the triad. Soviet nuclear superiority also exists across the Iron Curtain, thanks largely to the new SS-20s.

Restoring the balance with the MX ICBM and the Pershing 2 and Cruise missile deployments, respectively, would do both more, and less, than even up the score. The MX would pose a greater ICBM surprise attack threat to the Soviets than now exists but probably will not end the vulnerability of the U.S. ICBM force.

The Pershing 2 ballistic missiles will bring Russian command and control centers within eight to 10 minutes flight time, posing a qualitatively more urgent threat than at present, without persuading most Europeans that they are safer from nuclear war. But more and better missiles, like the MX and Pershing 2, run head-on into psychological fears that nuclear weapons are more threatening to peace than Soviet aggression, however. This poses a qualitatively new dilemma for the West in which nuclear weapons built to deter enemies no longer reassure friends or even all of one own's countrymen.

Resolving that dilemma, Professor Howard wrote, is a challenge "that will confront statesmen and strategists for the rest of this century."

These officials acknowledge that Kohl's triumph has strongly reinforced the likelihood that Pershing II missiles will be deployed on schedule in December in West Germany and the first Cruise missiles will be made operational in Britain and Italy about the same time. But it also introduces new dimensions to the issue that they fear are not apparent to policy-makers in Washington.

The deepest level of debate here is over Soviet intentions. Rarely voiced publicly, there is a serious view that holds that the Soviet Union has little interest in reaching an interim agreement at Geneva that would allow the United States to begin deployment of the two new missiles while establishing a mutually balanced ceiling for medium-range rockets on both sides.

In this analysis, the first deployment is not the end of the fight for public opinion, but the real beginning. Reagan's public utterances and negotiating stance should be finely tuned to easing the conditions of deployment, say officials dismayed by the confusion and controversy surrounding the sudden firing of Eugene Rostow and the nomination of Kenneth L. Adelman to replace him at the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and by the severe White House reaction to Ambassador Paul Nitze's "walk in the woods" outside Geneva with Soviet negotiator Yuli Kvitsinsky last July.

During that discussion, Nitze momentarily shelved the zero option idea and put forward on his own a proposal that would have limited each side to 75 missile launchers. Kvitsinsky indicated interest, and according to some reports, the two worked out an idea that would have substituted accelerated deployment of the slower-moving Cruise missiles for the Pershing II in West Germany.

The idea was quickly disowned by both the Kremlin and the White House. But the "walk in the woods" formula has become a symbol for European officials of the shape of the most likely agreement that could be obtained at Geneva. Its surfacing has helped spur a second level of debate over the lowest possible level of deployment as opposed to the "full-range" number of 572 Pershings and Cruise that Reagan says will be put into Europe unless the Russians agree now to both sides forgoing any deployment.

The current Reagan administration negotiating choice — zero or full range, in arms control jargon — implicitly treats the roughly 600 Soviet SS-4, SS-5 and SS-20 medium-range missiles targeted on Western Europe as an actual military threat that has to be balanced by a roughly equal number of American missiles on European soil. President Reagan's strident denunciations of the Soviet military capability and the ideological evil that drives this buildup reinforces the impression that Washington's response is one-dimensional.

But increasingly European officials describe the Soviet deployment in different terms, stressing their belief that the Russian missiles represent a political and psychological threat that would establish, in Kohl's words during a recent interview, "a broad basis for political blackmail."



BLOCKERS: Five women blocking the road as a press party tries to leave RAF Greenham Common Base, where U.S. Cruise missiles are to be deployed. The women were angered by the refusal of the Defense Secretary Heselbine who took the press party around the base to meet them.

U.K. missile drama nearing grand finale

By Peter Osman

GREENHAM COMMON, England (WP) — Astride the barren, muddy flatland of this 40-year-old air base, a massive load of concrete and steel is being molded into six shelters for the nuclear-armed Cruise missiles that will begin arriving later this year.

"The client takes possession of the first shelter in June," said a British government engineer, archly referring to the U.S. Air Force's 501st tactical missile wing that will be manning the weapons.

The occasion for his comment was the visit here last week of Defense Minister Michael Heseltine, who donned a hard hat and camouflage field jacket over his pin-stripe suit to trek through the site in a public display of Britain's commitment to the missiles. With reporters and cameras in tow, Heseltine left no doubt that the Thatcher government is, as he put it, "resolute" in its belief that deployment should proceed unless the Soviets agree to dismantle their medium-range SS-20s targeted on Western Europe.

Attention to the political debate over U.S. negotiating positions and popular protests against the new generation of nuclear weapons has tended to overshadow the fact that in Britain, at least, preparations to accept the missiles are proceeding apace. For all the emotional impact of the Greenham Common women's peace camp pitched just beyond the base's security fence, the deployment they so bitterly oppose will be an established fact in a matter of months.

"For many people Greenham Common has become a symbol," Heseltine declared in recognition of the women's celebrity. "For me too it is a symbol, a symbol of NATO's determination to ensure the continuing success of its policy of deterrence."

Because opinion polls show a majority of the British public opposed to the siting of the subsonic mobile Cruise missiles in Britain, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has ordered Heseltine, who became defense minister in January, to mount an all-out effort to gain support for the weapons buildup.

Barely a week after moving from the department of the environment to defense, Heseltine was appearing on television arguing on behalf of the Cruise missiles. He set up a special secretariat 19 within his department to coordinate government efforts to counter the anti-nuclear movement, and meets regularly with an interdepartmental public relations group to determine further strategy.

In meetings with reporters, articles in newspapers and speeches on the stump and in parliament, Heseltine has refined his case. He uses the now standard NATO formulation endorsing President Reagan's zero option as an ultimate objective while expressing willingness to consider any other proposals, as he put it this week, "provided there is a balance and no phony counting."

"We have made it clear that the end of 1983 is not the deadline for negotiations," his text for the Greenham Common visit continued, "we are quite prepared at a later stage to halt or reverse deployment if progress (in

the negotiations with Moscow) warrants it."

Notwithstanding these expressions of flexibility, Heseltine is adamant that no amount of protests by what he contends is an unrepresentative fraction of the British public will deter the government from the deployment program. A substantial majority of the population has consistently supported the government's defense policies, Heseltine contends, and skepticism about Cruise missiles can be overcome by explaining why they are necessary.

Heseltine and other government spokesmen even see progress for their position in the widespread calls from across the political spectrum for a "dual key" on the missiles, giving Britain a physical means of restraining the U.S. from firing the warheads. He asserts that long-standing agreements with the United States already ensure that use of the weapons is subject to a "joint decision" process between Washington and London. By discussing those procedures, he says, critics are acknowledging that the missiles are necessary.

In any event, Heseltine believes the dual key controversy is primarily a ploy intended to find grounds for putting pressure on the government. "If they got dual key," he said, "They'd shift the argument to something else."

The effectiveness of Heseltine's efforts to counter the anti-nuclear movement will get a major test over the upcoming national holiday. The campaign for nuclear disarmament, continuing a practice that dates from the early 1960s, is planning marches and demonstrations around the country, joined by supporters of the Greenham Common peace camp. One of the biggest demonstrations is to be a 14-mile human chain of about 40,000 people stretching from here to the Burghfield Royal Ordnance Factory where nuclear weapons are made.

Asked to comment on these plans, Heseltine said, "they are masterminded by a small group of politically motivated people using high-profile techniques" to attract publicity. "But that," he added, "doesn't make their case any stronger."

After inspecting the construction of the concrete shelters — known as garages — where the missiles are to be housed, Heseltine told reporters he was not yet satisfied with security around the base's nine-mile perimeter. In the last week of December dozens of women from the camp scaled the 10-foot chain link fence and danced atop a building site for 40 minutes before they were removed by police.

The first 16 of an eventual total of 96 missiles are to be flown in from the United States as soon as their garage is ready in June. Once made operational in December, they will be mounted on mobile "transporter erector launchers" designed to be dispersed into the countryside in the event of war. To protect the shelters from the most determined intruders, a system of alarms and specially designed barbed wire obstacles are being installed.

As for Heseltine, he left Greenham Common, as he had come, by helicopter.



PROGRESSING: Work progresses (top) on one of six concrete reinforced garages that will house Cruise missiles at Britain's RAF Greenham Common as hard-hats and boots lie discarded after Defense Secretary Heselbine and officials conducted a press tour.

Despite fall in imports

America's trade gap widens to \$3.58b

WASHINGTON, March 30 (AP) — The United States' foreign trade deficit widened slightly to \$3.58 billion in February despite the fact that oil imports plunged to the lowest level in more than a decade, the government reported Tuesday.

Hawke halts work on dam

CANBERRA, March 30 (AFP) — Prime Minister Bob Hawke, in one of his boldest moves since taking office three weeks ago, has ordered a halt to construction of the Gordon Below Franklin Dam, a project initiated by the Tasmanian state government, Australia's only surviving Liberal government.

The Labor prime minister's decision was made known Wednesday after the Tasmanian Premier Robin Gray had twice refused to negotiate with the federal government on alternative employment and electricity projects.

In a letter to Gray, Hawke said the decision to intervene had been taken with "great reluctance" and added "your refusal to negotiate left us no choice."

The Tasmanian government has maintained that construction of the Gordon Below Franklin Dam would cover the state's hydro-electric power needs and provide jobs in a state which has Australia's highest unemployment rate.

EEC move to beef up Greek economy

BRUSSELS, March 30 (R) — The European Commission has proposed a series of measures designed to help bolster the ailing Greek economy and bring it further into line with its Common Market partners.

The measures, which must be approved by member states, including plans to reform the Greek taxation system, air transport,

'Dumping dues' set

BRUSSELS, March 30 (AFP) — The European Common Market (EEC) Wednesday announced "dumping dues" for four months on certain iron and steel products imported from Argentina, Canada, Brazil and Venezuela.

Products affected are wide iron and steel strip for re-processing. Imports of these items from the four countries in the first nine months of last year totalled 310,000 tons against 81,000 tons for the whole of 1981.

The EEC commission said dumping dues would be 9 percent for Argentina, 32 percent for Canada, 23 percent for Brazil and 36 percent for Venezuela.

U.S. exports last month were valued at \$16.33 billion off 6.1 percent from the January level, while imports were down 5 percent to \$19.91 billion.

Imports of some other items — notably cars — increased over January levels, the Commerce Department report said. And overall U.S. exports dropped even more than overall imports, causing the deficit to rise from January's \$3.57 billion.

Falling world oil prices should hold this year's total merchandise trade deficit under Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige's previous estimate of \$60 billion to \$70 billion a department analyst said. However, he added, the new estimate of \$50 billion to \$60 billion would still be well above last year's record-setting \$42.6 billion.

In February, Tuesday's report said, the nation imported just 3.74 million barrels of oil per day. Commerce analyst David Lund said the level "was the lowest, I would think, since sometime in the 1960s."

The decline in oil imports brought a \$151 million monthly surplus for U.S. trade with nations in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, only the second such surplus in more than a decade, Lund said.

The huge drop in oil imports — from an already low average of 4.79 million barrels per day in January — "obviously is transient," but will surely help the nation's overall deficit this year, he said. The report covers trade in merchandise only, excluding the balance-of-payments surplus the United States usually attains in services.

improve agricultural efficiency and modernize job-training.

Commissioner Richard Burke, who drew up the proposals, told a news conference Tuesday that the commission would also consider co-financing several major projects in Greece's five-year economic development plan.

A major part of the scheme, involving \$2.5 billion in aid to Greece's most impoverished areas, was announced by the commission last month. Since it joined the community in 1981, Greece has complained that the free trading requirements on Common Market membership have strained its economy and aggravated its trade deficit.

It says it is at a disadvantage because of its remoteness from the other nine states and its lack of sophistication in both industry and agriculture.

In the agricultural sector, where sorting, quality control and packing are primitive by community standards, Greece says it has found it impossible to compete with the smartly produced meat and dairy products of northern Europe.

Prebisch says

Crisis grips capitalism

BUENOS AIRES, March 30 (Agencies) — Capitalism is in crisis, the world is on its way back to trade protectionism, and the heart of all the trouble is, as usual, the United States, the Group of 77 developing nations was told here.

The warning came Tuesday from veteran Argentine economist Raul Prebisch, 86, an active figure in inter-American economic bodies and a senior United Nations official.

He was addressing delegates from the Group of 77, a multinational body which aims at forging concerted action from developing nations during meetings of the U.N. Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Prebisch charged that the "violent restriction of credits and the sudden increase in U.S. customs duties has rapidly destroyed the multilateral system of trade and payments."

He said world economic expansion was slowly turning into depression, and that the current economic crisis was being aggravated by import cutbacks on the part of countries fighting mounting unemployment.

The center of all this trouble, Prebisch said, was the United States, where anti-inflationist policies had sparked off the economic recession that subsequently spread to the rest of the world.

In an uninterrupted two-hour speech, mainly to government ministers and top officials from Africa and Asia, the elderly economist warned that the crisis would hang heavily over the UNCTAD conference in Belgrade next June.

He added that the major centers of the world were gradually distancing themselves from international free market forces, and attacked "outdated formulas" for fighting inflation.

Prebisch also hammered Washington's credit restrictions and "too-high" interest rates, which he said resulted in shrinking economies and growing unemployment.

He called for a long postponement — more than 20 years — in the payment of the Third World's foreign debts and a big drop in the interest rates applied to these debts.

"A program of adequate prolongation of terms and a strong decline in interest rates seems to me an act of fundamental precaution. No matter how much (economic) recovery may take place in the central countries, it is unimaginable that heavily indebted countries continue getting deeper into debt to make heavy service payments or shrink their economies by drastically reducing imports," he said.

As dollars dry up

Africa resorts to barter

NAIROBI, March 30 (ONS) — Several African states, their development plans thwarted by an acute shortage of foreign exchange, are seeking a return to old-style barter under which they can exchange surplus products for urgently needed manufactured goods and services from industrialized nations.

Two big powers, the United States and Communist China, have already shown some interest in the idea.

The 20th century style of barter was first proposed by Tanzania's President Julius Nyerere during discussions early last month with Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and a team of economic advisers as one possible way out of Tanzania's desperate economic plight.

With virtually no hard currency left for Tanzania to repay its substantial overseas loans as a result of a drastic fall in exports, Nyerere sees no way his country can purchase much-needed materials for even a limited number of development projects.

This suggestion appeared to have had a sympathetic reception from the Chinese, whose accumulated trade surplus for the whole of Africa in the first half of 1982 was \$300 million.

Only six days later, Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi met a delegation of American congressmen in Nairobi to discuss Kenya's trade relations with the United

States. According to U.S. Embassy sources here, the delegation put forward barter as a means by which Kenya could perhaps exchange some of its coffee and tea for American food grains.

Both sides agreed to look further into the possibility of negotiating a swap in order to conserve Kenya's dwindling stock of dollars, although the country is not in such a serious plight as its Tanzanian neighbor.

No barter arrangement seems to have been finalized so far between any African state and an overseas country but Tanzania did conclude one with neighboring Zambia last December. Zambia owes Tanzania a sizable sum for its use of Dar-es-Salaam port facilities, and Tanzania is to be repaid, at least in part, with manufactured goods from Zambia, which has a modest industrial base.

At a banquet he gave for the Chinese Premier, Nyerere referred to this and the possibility of a similar arrangement with Mozambique then added: "Why should Tanzania and China cease to trade to their mutual advantage just because neither has U.S. dollars or sterling pounds?"

"Bilaterally and perhaps even regionally we must be prepared to enter into the mutual exchange of goods without using internationally acceptable currency." Although Zhao Ziyang visited Kenya immediately after his Tanzanian talks, barter does not seem to have been raised.

By 27 percent

Jakarta devalues currency

JAKARTA, March 30 (R) — Indonesia devalued its currency, the rupiah, by just over 27 percent Wednesday to help cope with falling oil revenues and the effects of world recession.

The government set a new rate of 970 rupiahs to the dollar. The rupiah had been allowed to fall to around 703 to the dollar from a rate of 625 set in the last official devaluation in November 1978.

Announcing the long-expected move, top Economy Minister Ali Wardhana said this month's OPEC decision to cut the Saudi benchmark price of crude oil by \$5 to \$29 a barrel had far-reaching effects on the country.

Indonesia, the only Asian member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), relies on oil exports and oil taxes for about 70 percent of its budgetary income.

"Steps need to be taken to halt the further decline of the government's foreign exchange reserves," Professor Wardhana said after a cabinet session chaired by President Suharto. Wardhana, coordinating minister for the economy and industry and supervisor of development, said Indonesia would continue its free foreign exchange system and would not introduce exchange controls, which some people had predicted.

The oil price cut is expected to cost Indonesia more than \$1.6 billion in lost revenue in the new fiscal year, which starts Friday. Indonesia is also the world's biggest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG). Since its long-term gas contracts, all with Japan, are tied to oil prices, the OPEC decision also means a substantial drop in gas income.

Overall exports, including such commodities as coffee, rubber and tin, declined 14 percent in value in 1982 from the previous year. Indonesia now faces the probability of its first trade deficit since 1967, a big fall in

British Aerospace incurs \$34m loss

LONDON, March 30 (AFP) — British Aerospace made a net loss of 23 million pounds (\$34.5 million) last year after putting 100 million pounds (\$155 million) into a reserve fund, Chairman Sir Austin Pearce has said.

The reserve fund had been set up against the dropping of or cancellation of commercial aircraft orders. The previous year the company, which has been part-denationalized for two years, made a profit of 63 million pounds (\$94.5 million).

British Aerospace is chiefly engaged in the construction of the European Airbus and this month launched the new BA 146 short haul aircraft which is so far selling slowly.

BAe is not however the only British company to suffer from the problems of airline companies and the reduction in orders from them. Rolls Royce has, according to rumors in industry circles, suffered a giant 130 million pound loss against a deficit of only three

official currency reserves, cutbacks in development spending and sharply increased overseas borrowing.

A senior government adviser told Reuters further measures might be announced before the weekend. These could include higher interest rates to encourage re-investment in the rupiah, domestic credit restrictions and austerity measures affecting travel and expenditure by government officials.

Japan to unfold plan for recovery

TOKYO, March 30 (R) — The Japanese government said Wednesday it would introduce a nine-point package on April 6 to try to boost the non-Communist world's second largest economy out of recession.

The new measures, whose broad outlines were disclosed by the government, received a mixed reception. Bank economists criticized them as not being substantial enough to get the stagnant economy moving again.

But the Tokyo Stock Exchange reacted enthusiastically and shares leapt to new highs for the third consecutive day. Dealers said the announcement was the main impetus behind a surge of 22.48 points in the market average, which closed at 8,446.61.

Officials said the proposals include taking full advantage of falling oil prices, effective management of monetary policies, concentration of public works spending and promotion of housing construction and private investment.

Jun Shiozaki, director general of the economic planning agency, told reporters Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, economic affairs ministers and leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) agreed at a meeting Wednesday to work out details of the package within a week.

13 held for smuggling

BELGRADE, March 30 (AP) — Yugoslav police arrested Tuesday night 12 Yugoslavs and a Greek driver, and 12 Yugoslavs as they were unloading 5.5 metric tons of smuggled coffee from a refrigerator truck, the Belgrade daily *Politika* reported Wednesday.

Coffee has been in short supply and often unavailable for at least two years in this Balkan country, largely because the government curtailed imports for lack of hard currency.

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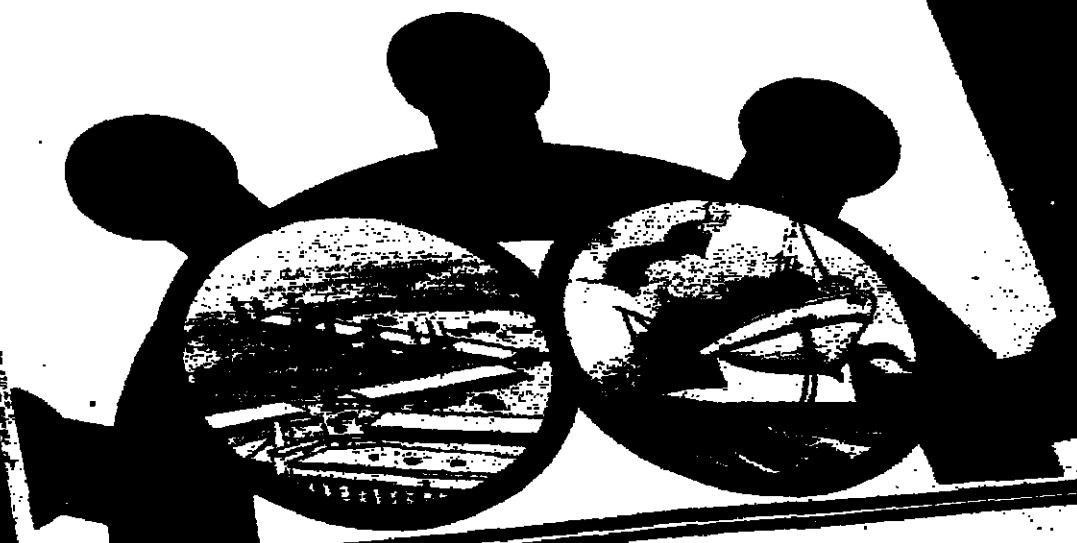
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PUBLISHED BY THAMA FOR ADVERTISING,
PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING RESEARCH
FIRST EDITION
1403 - 1983
JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA

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Tin producers form association

LONDON, March 30 (AFP) — An association of tin producing countries has been formed "in principle" following two days of talks here, it was announced.

Nigeria's Mining Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Hassan told a press conference that delegates from the seven countries represented (Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Australia, Zaire, Nigeria and Bolivia) would brief their governments prior to ratification of the agreement.

Yen undervalued against dollar, Regan opines

NEW YORK, March 30 (AFP) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said in an interview published Tuesday by *The New York Times* that the yen is undervalued against the dollar, a fact holding down American exports.

"We say the yen is unusually weak. The Japanese say the dollar is too strong. What-ever is the correct position, it still remains that given our rates of interest and their rates of interest, our inflation rate and their inflation rate, I think the dollar should be weaker vis-a-vis the yen," he commented.

He also said that the "natural forces" of the market should be enough to correct this monetary imbalance.

Kuwait minister assures MPs on Santa Fe issue

KUWAIT, March 30 (AP) — Kuwait's oil minister vowed Tuesday to "do our utmost" in order to reverse U.S. Secretary of the Interior James Watt's decision on banning Kuwait-funded exploration on federally owned territory.

"The government will do its utmost through political, diplomatic and legal channels to get the decision reversed, and to effect a change in the American stand in general," Sheikh Ali Al-Khalifa declared at a heated parliamentary session. He said the decision, which denies the Kuwaiti-owned Santa Fe Company access to federally owned territories, may have been prompted by high profitability in the oil and gas exploration sector. "Therefore the U.S. government wants to deprive us of such profits."

"The decision may (also) have a political aim, to bar Kuwaiti investments from leading to the establishment of a base for direct political influence" on U.S. policymaking, he added. The minister, who has stated that Watt's decision would touch only on one percent of land available to Santa Fe in the United States, was speaking to angry deputies who called for "shifting of Kuwaiti investments" away from the U.S. market.

There have been reports in the Arab press that Kuwait purchased the Santa Fe company

China, Brazil and Burma." A joint statement by the seven countries Tuesday said that the meeting "considered and adopted the text of the agreement establishing the Association of Tin Producing Countries. The agreement would come into effect as soon as the requirements for entry into force as laid down in the agreement are met."

"The meeting hoped that with the establishment of the association, it would foster close cooperation among member countries with a view to safeguarding their interests in the industry through the maintenance of remunerative and stable price and intensification of research and development, and marketing to further expand the use of tin."

The inaugural meeting of the conference of ministers of the association, the ruling body, will decide on the headquarters of the association, the statement added. No date has been set for this meeting. The pact will come into effect "as soon as possible," the Nigerian minister, who chaired the meeting, said. "As soon as we have put out signatures to the agreement."

To bring the agreement into being, two-thirds of the members, on a production basis, must have signed. Contributions to the association will also be based on production. Nigeria's strong stand that the voting procedure of the association be governed by individual production gained the day with the meeting adopting a procedure of accepting measures with a two-thirds majority.

late in 1981, at \$2.4 billion, only on the basis of assurances that federally owned lands would be made available for oil and mineral exploration. With Watt's decision, these reports claim, Kuwait stands to lose as a result of the Santa Fe deal.

Parliament later voted to approve a motion that urges the government to establish contacts with the U.S. administration, with a view to convincing it to cancel the decision, and to report back to the assembly.

Swissair, Lufthansa get Airbus A-310

TOULOUSE, Southern France, March 30 (AFP) — The presidents of Switzerland's Swissair and West Germany's Lufthansa airlines Tuesday took delivery of the first two Airbus A-310 airliners here.

The plane carries up to 218 passengers, and is seven meters longer than the previous version. It has "three-dimensional" wings with a total area reduced by 20 percent.

This airliner recently flew from Kuwait to Singapore, a distance of 6,780 kilometers in eight hours and 40 minutes. So far, 102 of the planes have ordered by 16 airlines. Lufthansa has ordered 50, Swissair 21. And Air France 15.

Dr. Subroto, Indonesia's minister of mines and energy, who attended Monday's meeting and was thought to be against such an idea, was not available for comment. Paul Leong, Malaysia's minister of primary industries, whose idea was along with Bolivia to form such a union, expressed his pleasure at the outcome of 12 months of negotiation.

Bolivia's Carlo Barragan, minister of mines and metallurgy, also attended, along with Thailand's ambassador in London Phan Wannamethee, Zaire's London Ambassador Matungulu N'Kuman Tavun and G.H. Watkins, commercial minister at Australia's High Commission in London.

The Nigerian minister refused to divulge details of the pact, apart from saying that "greater efforts" will be made to trim production costs: that the association will bring "under its umbrella" the International Tin Research Institute, which is already funded by producers in order to step up research and development of consumption.

"There would be no question of reducing on a global basis" (similar to an OPEC cartel) he added. On the establishment of a separate buffer stock of tin, the conference of ministers would be "supreme judges" on that matter. The headquarters of the new association will be sited in one of the producing countries, as yet undecided.

A committee of experts will be meeting "in the near future" to work out the rules and procedures of this agreement, following ratification by governments giving a two-thirds majority on a production basis. D.K. Rama Ayer, secretary-general of the new association, will be based in one of the producing countries, also as yet undecided.

Developing nations need \$90b for growth by '85, UNCTAD says

GENEVA, March 30 (Agencies) — Developing countries will need an estimated \$90 billion by 1985 to stop a slide to stagnation and restore economic growth, a United Nations report said Wednesday.

The U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said in the report it had revised its emergency proposals, published earlier this year, to channel \$70 billion to the Third World and was now putting forward a \$90 billion plan. Despite signs of resumption of growth in market economies, developing countries' output was likely to fall in 1983 for the third year in a row, UNCTAD said. This was a situation not experienced in the Third World since the great depression, it added.

UNCTAD said \$90 billion was needed for developing countries to reach an annual five percent growth on average during 1984-1985. The plan will be presented to a 154-nation UNCTAD conference in Belgrade in June.

The report reiterated proposals made earlier this year, including a call to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to sell off a significant proportion of its gold stocks to help rescue Third World countries from cash shortage. Other proposed measures included an increase in aid by developed countries to reach more than the 0.7 percent target set by the United Nations.

The UNCTAD report said the expected recovery in industrialized countries would not be enough to boost exports from the Third World. The report identified heavy pressure on Third World nations' balance of payments as the main stumbling block for growth. The outlook for growth in major West European countries was bleak, against a general background of uncertainty, it added.

French travel agents, police clash

PARIS, March 30 (AP) — Angry travel agents scuffled with French gendarmes Wednesday as they tried to force their way into the Ministry of Finance to protest new currency regulations that limit foreign travel.

Shouting, "get out, Mitterrand!" and "Travel equals freedom," several hundred agents and other demonstrators knocked down crowd-control barriers and pushed aside the police guarding the ministry before being driven back with clubs.

The outburst on the Rue de Rivoli was the culmination of a protest march that began shortly after noon several blocks away at the Place de l'Opera, where numerous travel

Iran, Syria discuss oil pact renewal

LONDON, March 30 (R) — Iran and Syria have begun talks on renewing an agreement for the supply of Iranian oil to Syrian refineries, the national agency IRNA reported Tuesday.

Under a barter deal signed a year ago, Syria contracted to buy some 170,000 barrels a day in exchange for foodstuffs and other raw materials. But Iranian Oil Minister Muhammad Gharazi said at this month's OPEC meeting in London that Iran intended to phase out barter deals.

IRNA said Syrian Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Salim Yassin and Abdul Jabbar Al-Dahhak, minister of oil and mineral resources, arrived in Tehran at the head of a trade delegation. IRNA said they met officials of the Iranian Oil Ministry to discuss renewal of the oil agreement.

Bangladesh gets \$73m IMF loan

WASHINGTON, March 30 (AP) — The International Monetary Fund announced a loan of over \$73 million Tuesday to Bangladesh. It already owes the fund about \$382 million.

Bangladesh was hard hit by a fall in the price of jute, its major export, and the high price of the oil it has had to import in recent years. Its government has promised to cut inflation to 12 percent this year, from 16 percent, to reduce the big gap between its foreign sales and purchases and to seek an economic growth rate of three percent a year.

Dollar slips back slightly

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, March 30 — The dollar slipped back slightly on the exchange markets Wednesday due to profit-taking sales and an almost lethargic market prior to the Easter holidays. Domestically, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) changed the parity of the riyal/dollar exchange rate to 3.4500 from 3.4400 as the domestic commercial bank's dollar buying rate from SAMA. The new commercial counter to the public will be 3.4542. The SAMA parity move was the first one for this year with the last change (from 3.4300 to 3.400) being carried out in June of last year.

The markets took the news calmly and there was no noticeable increase in volumes traded, but some short-term rises in riyal deposit rates was seen. On the whole, the lack of parity changes by SAMA has been a key stabilizing factor during the past few months which has avoided speculative pressures being built up. The Wednesday move has caught virtually everyone by surprise in the Kingdom's banking community as well as the Bahrain-based offshore banking units.

In Europe Wednesday, the dollar fell back against all the major currencies but the falls were relatively small and mostly due to profit taking and did not represent a fundamental shift in the market's attitude toward the American currency. The British pound remained shaky at the 1.4570 levels with the Bank of England hardly interfering to support the currency. The Eurodollar deposit markets were still key operators on Wednesday with Eurodollar rates remaining firm at 9 9/16 percent for the one-month tenor and 9 15/16 - 10 percent levels for the one-year period.

Federal Reserve "Fed fund" prime lending rates were steady at the 8 7/8 - 9 percent level in the overnight New York markets and most operators were still gearing themselves to a rise in the U.S. discount rate. In the various currency news, the dollar seemed to have been little affected by the announcement that the U.S. February trade deficit had widened by \$3.8 billion, nor of a 6 percent fall in the U.S. home sales for the same period. The exchange markets were generally quiet and the French franc moved to 7.2890/7.2700 from 7.3080 on Tuesday, while the German mark was also stronger at 2.4250 levels. The yen and the Swiss franc were also up at 239.50 and 2.0760 levels respectively.

In the bullion markets, the dollar's fall on the exchanges led gold and silver to stage a mini rally with gold trading at \$417 an ounce and silver at \$10.62. This compared to prices of \$414 and \$10.35 an ounce respectively.

The domestic markets were caught virtually napping by the SAMA parity move on Wednesday and spot riyal/dollar exchange rates quickly rose to 3.4505-08 levels in some active trading but which died down by close of business. Riyal deposit rates were generally firmer and the week fixed opened at 8 7/8 - 9 1/8 percent only to close at 8 7/8 - 9 1/2 percent levels. The longer dated funds were also active at 9 3/4 - 9 1/2 percent for the one-year interbank rate.

LONDON — The following are the closing gold prices in U.S. dollars per troy ounce:

London	416.875
Paris	417.15
Frankfurt	418.00
Zurich	417.75
Hong Kong	416.65

Mubarak begins 4-state tour today seeking economic aid

CAIRO, March 30 (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak leaves for Peking Thursday to start a 10-day tour of four Asian countries during which he is expected to seek economic assistance and political support.

His visit will be the first by an Egyptian president to Communist China, North Korea and Japan although Mubarak has visited China before as Egyptian vice president. Indonesia, the fourth country, has been visited by Mubarak's predecessors.

Mubarak went to China in 1976 and 1980 to negotiate an arms deal which brought

Egypt F-6 and F-7 fighters and spare parts for its Soviet aircraft. Last December, Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang visited Cairo and discussed the possibility of assembling F-7s in Egypt.

Trade between Egypt and China now totals about \$184 million annually, a figure Economy Minister Mustafa Kamel Said stated recently that Egypt wanted to increase.

According to Said, Mubarak during his visit to Japan, which starts April 5, will seek more joint investment projects and an increase in trade.

EEC hails Japan's new trade policy

BRUSSELS, March 30 (AFP) — Japan's decision to reappraise its product standards and certification methods, to ease the entry of foreign goods, was welcomed here Wednesday by European Economic Community (EEC) officials.

They judged that the program for reviewing legislation and regulations on these non-tariff obstacles to trade was likely to have a significant effect. It seemed probable that about 17 laws covering key sectors would be

amended by the Japanese parliament late in May.

EEC officials said the Japanese decision, announced last Saturday, was "a big step toward the internationalizing of the Japanese standards and certification systems." They hoped to discuss the practical aspects with Japanese colleagues.

Business sectors concerned include pharmaceuticals, cars, engineering goods, fertilizers, machinery and farm equipment.

SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT TENDERS				
Authority	Description	Tender Number	Tender Price	Closing Date
Interior Ministry, Department of Jails	Renovations & electrical works at the Reformatory in Makkah	18/M/N	500	Apr. 9
" " "	Carry out roof insulation for the jails of Abha, Khamis Mushait & Dhahran Al-Janoub	19/M/N	200	Apr. 10
" " "	Construction of an internal fence, room, sun-shade etc. for Tabuk's jail	20/M/N	500	Apr. 11
" " "	Construction of 6 halls & 5 bath-rooms for Makkah's jail	21/M/N	500	Apr. 12

PORTS AUTHORITY JEDDAH ISLAMIC PORT SHIPS MOVEMENT UPTO 0700 HOURS ON 16TH J'THANI 1403/30TH MARCH, 1983

1. SHIPS DISCHARGING:				
Berth	Name of Vessel	Agent	Type of Cargo	Arrival
1.	Merzario Persia	A.E.T.	Containers	29.3.83
2.	Hellenic Ideal	Alpha	Bagged Rice	26.3.83
3.	Interpiris	Mofarrij	Bagged Wheat	27.3.83
4.	Orndurum	Shobokshi	Tiles/Steel/Timber	22.3.83
5.	Saudi Star	M.E.S.A.	Barley/Onions	25.3.83
6.	Rainar 1	El Hawi	Timber	22.3.83
7.	Maldive Noble	O.Trade	Gen./Ldg.	25.3.83
8.	Atalaya	Gulf	Cont./Steel	23.3.83
9.	Chion Med	O.C.E.	Oranges	25.3.83
10.	Asia Freezer	O.C.E.	Chicken/Butter	21.3.83
11.	Nordisino	Shobokshi	Containers	23.3.83
12.	Ikorian Reefer	O.C.E.	Reefer	23.3.83
13.	Odyseus	Rolaco	Bulk Cement	17.3.83
14.	Firat	O.C.E.	Building Matr./Cable	22.3.83
15.	Saudi Kawther	M.E.S.A.	Timber/General	22.3.83
16.	Nova Georgia	S.S.M.S.C.	Timber/General	22.3.83
17.	Norland	O.C.E.	Bagged Cement	23.3.83
18.	Saudi Enterprise	M.E.S.A.	General	20.3.83
19.	Bronislaw Lachowicz	Attar	Contrs./Gen.	22.3.83
20.	Saudi Almadina	M.E.S.A.	General	24.3.83
21.	Al Zahrah	Star	Oranges/Lemons	22.3.83
22.	Alfajr Alsaoudi IV	Alsabah	Tiles/Marble	21.3.83

KING ABDUL AZIZ PORT DAMMAM SHIPS MOVEMENT UPTO 0700 HOURS OF 16.6.1403/30.3.1983 CHANGES FOR THE PAST 24 HOURS

1. VESSELS DISCHARGING:				
Berth	Name of Vessel	Agent	Type of Cargo	Arrival
1.	Haebaraki	SMC	Gen./Steel	29.3.83
2.	Barakath	Orri	Gen./Fert.	27.3.83
3.	Hoogh Clipper	Kanoo	Gen./Cont.	24.3.83
4.	Ming Autumn	Gulf	Gen./Timber	23.3.83
5.	Shaymathree	OCE	General	23.3.83
6.	Tarponsanilago	Kanoo	Steel/Gen.	22.3.83
7.	Evermoreascendant	Kanoo	Steel	19.3.83
8.	Kashii Maru	Shobokshi	General	20.3.83
9.	Jasmine	SEA	Gen./Rice	21.3.83
10.	Chanah	Gulf	General	18.3.83
11.	Hellenic Patriot	SMC	Gen./Steel	23.3.83
12.	Jagshakti	Orri	Barley	19.3.83
13.	K. Jastrzble	Orri	Barley	21.3.83
14.	Daccan Pioneer	Orri	Gen./Cont.	22.3.83
15.	Evelyn Maersk	Kanoo	Containers	23.3.83
16.	Jollyturchessa	Goeabi	Containers	23.3.83
17.	Hual Trapper	Kanoo	Cars	23.3.83
18.	Fumurra	Saite	Flour	24.3.83
19.	Ibn Younus	Kanoo	Gen./Cont.	22.3.83
20.	Yidu	Orri	General	23.3.83

BELGRADE (AFP) — The British government has granted loans of 38 million and 40 million pounds sterling to Yugoslavia, Tanjug news agency reported. The first loan

Foreign Exchange Rates		
Quoted at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday		
	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.25	9.15
Bangladesh Taka	14.22	14.03
Belgian Franc (1,000)	74.00	71.98
Canadian Dollar		2.82
Deutsche Mark (100)	143.25	142.67
Dutch Guilder (100)	127.00	126.66
Egyptian Pound	3.05	3.02
Emirates Dirham (100)	94.60	94.05
French Franc (100)	48.00	47.62
Greek Drachma (1,000)	39.00	41.22
Indian Rupee (100)		34.56
Italian Lira (10,000)	24.30	24.00
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	14.54
Jordanian Dinar	9.68	9.61
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.84	11.81
Lebanese Lira (100)	83.30	83.00
Moroccan Dirham (100)	52.80	52.54
Pakistani Rupee (100)	28.10	26.65
Philippines Peso (100)		35.88
Pound Sterling	5.06	5.04
Qatari Riyal (100)	95.00	94.87
Singapore Dollar (100)		165.50
Spanish Peseta (1,000)		25.42
Swiss Franc (100)	167.00	166.30
Syrian Lira (100)	59.25	61.72
U.S. Dollar	3.46	3.45
Yemeni Riyal (100)	75.20	75.10
Selling Price		
Gold kg.	46,580	46,380
10 Tolas bar	5440	5400
Ounce	1450	1430

The above cash and transfer rates are supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange & Commerce, Gabel St., Tel. 6441000, Jeddah.

is for five years, part of it available now and part in the summer. The second loan is to help Yugoslavia pay back previous credit to Britain.


OTTAWA (AFP) — Canada will resist any bid to manipulate international financial bodies so that they withhold credit from certain Central American countries, External Affairs Minister Allan Rock said here. He was replying to parliamentarians who said the United States was using the Inter-American Development Bank to get money to El Salvador at Nicaragua's expense. They noted that Canada was a shareholder in this bank.

MEXICO CITY (AFP) — Mexican oil exports in January were 56.6 percent up on a year earlier, and revenue was up 43.9 percent, the Foreign Trade Institute said. Sales averaged more than 1,600,000 barrels a day for the first time, total revenue for the month being \$1.4 billion, a \$127 million drop on January 1982 when the rate was \$30.92 a barrel against \$28.42 in January this year. The institute said February's rate averaged \$26 a barrel.

OTTAWA (AFP) — The Canadian monthly industrial production index made its sharpest jump in 50 years in January, with a surge of five percent from the previous month, the official Canadian statistics agency, announced here Tuesday. The biggest increases were noted in auto production (up 50 percent) and sawmills (up 15.6 percent).

VICTORIA (AFP) — The Japanese government is to provide Seychelles with a grant of \$1.4 million for a treated water supply project, according to Seychelles News Agency (SNA). The agreement was confirmed Tuesday by an exchange of letters between Planning and External Relations Minister Dr. Maxime Ferrari and Japanese Ambassador Teruo Kosugi.

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Against Windies in One-Day series

Gavaskar, Kapil earn India sensational win

ALBION, Guyana, March 30 (AFP) — India rattled up the highest total ever recorded against the West Indies in limited-overs cricket — 282 for five wickets off 47 overs — and brought off a surprising victory by 27 runs over the World Cup champions here Tuesday.

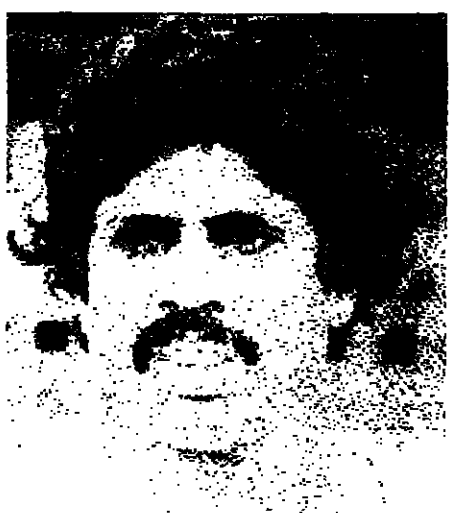
The total beat the 274 scored by Australia in the final of the 1975 World Cup at Lords in London as the highest and left the West Indies with a target they could not reach. They finished 255 for nine in reply.

The Indian triumph leveled the three-match One-Day International series following the West Indies victory by 52 runs in the first in Port-of-Spain earlier this month. The third is scheduled for St. George's, Grenada, April 7.

Sunil Gavaskar, finding the form which has eluded him so far on the tour at the right time, laid the foundations for the big Indian total with a magnificent innings of 90, sharing an opening partnership of 93 with Ravi Shastri who contributed 30. But it was a whirlwind 72 by the dynamic Indian captain Kapil Dev which provided the momentum and shocked the much-vaunted West Indians, World Cup champions in 1975 and 1979.

The West Indies needed 5.89 runs an over to win the match but they lost openers Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes cheaply and seldom looked likely to pull it off, despite a typically commanding 64 from their star batsman Vivian Richards. Wicket-keeper Jeff Dujon finished 53 not out and Faoued Bacchus got 52 but the West Indies were 255 for nine when they ran out of overs.

The Indians, sent into bat after West Indies captain Clive Lloyd had won the toss, were given a rousing start by Gavaskar and Shastri, who added 93 for the first wicket in 21 overs at a run a minute pace. Shastri, the all-rounder promoted to open the innings, was then caught by Dujon off fast bowler Malcolm



Kapil Dev... man-of-the-match Marshall but the Indians did not slacken their pace. Gavaskar, who has failed to reproduce the

form on this tour which has made him India's leading batsman in Test cricket, found his touch from the start, going for his shots with confidence off all the bowlers. He and in-form Mohinder Amarnath took the total to 152 before Vivian Richards bowled Amarnath for 30.

Kapil Dev then came in, promoting himself in the order, and he launched a furious attack on the bowling. He and Gavaskar added 71 for the third wicket — 60 of them to the power-hitting Indian captain. Then Gavaskar, having made 90 off only 115 deliveries with eight fours, was run out by a quick piece of work down the legside by wicketkeeper Dujon.

By then, with the total 224 for three, it was clear India would get a huge total and they added a further 58 off the seven more overs available to them. Kapil Dev was eventually bowled by Andy Roberts for 72 made off only 38 deliveries in 38 minutes. He reached his 50 in 19 minutes off 22 balls and when he was out he had hit three sixes and five fours.

Yashpal Sharma, with 23, and Dilip Vengsarkar, 19 not out, played an important part at the end of the innings against a West Indies team which was shell-shocked by the Indian assault and which offered three chances.

When the West Indies set off for their target, they had a few quick setbacks. Haynes was leg-before-wicket to Balwinder Singh Sandhu for two, Gordon Greenidge was victim of a freak catch when the ball stuck his forearm and rebounded to the bowler, Kapil Dev, and skipper Lloyd was caught in the

deep off medium pacer Madan Lal for eight.

However, Richards was in magnificent form and once he was in a West Indian victory was not out of the question. He was severe on Madan Lal, hitting a six and 11 fours, but was then bowled by the same bowler for 64 with the total 98 for four.

Bacchus and the left-handed Larry Gomes steadied the innings with a stand of 56 for the fifth wicket and when Gomes was out Dujon batted with authority. But the Indians, playing with real spirit before a sell out crowd of 15,000, were not to be denied. Bacchus was caught in the deep for 52 made off only 38 but, by then, the result was only a matter of formality.

The teams now return to Georgetown for Thursday's third Test of the five Test series. Kapil Dev, who followed his batting by claiming two wickets for 33 off 10 overs, was named man of the match.



Gavaskar... gets into his strides

Score-board

INDIA	90	V. Richards b Madan Lal	64
S. Gavaskar run out	90	C. Lloyd c Amarnath b Marshall	8
S. Shastri c Dujon b Marshall	30	F. Bacchus c Yashpal b Shastri	52
M. Amarnath b Richards	30	L. Gomes c Kapil Dev b Shastri	26
Kapil Dev, b Roberts	72	J. Dujon not out	53
Yashpal Sharma c Greenidge b Davis	23	M. Marshall c Sandhu b Shastri	5
D. Vengsarkar not out	19	A. Roberts b Kapil Dev	12
A. Malhotra no out	1	M. Holding c Malhotra b Sandhu	12
Extras	17	W. Davis not out	7
Total (for 5 wks)	282	Extras	8
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-93, 2-152, 3-224, 4-246, 5-277.		Total (for 9 wks)	225
BOWLING: Holding 7-0-49-0; Roberts 8-0-40-1;		FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-22, 3-62, 4-98, 5-154,	
Davis 8-0-40-1, Marshall 7-0-24-1, Gomes 10-0-64-0;		6-184, 7-191, 8-228, 9-232.	
Richards 6-0-44-1.		BOWLING: Kapil Dev, 10-0-33-2; Sandhu 10-0-	
WEST INDIES		38-2; Madan Lal 9-0-65-2, Venkatraghavan 10-0-63-0,	
G. Greenidge c b Kapil Dev	16	Shastri 8-0-48-3.	
D. Haynes lbw b Sandhu	2		

For fourth triumph in 22 meetings

Pacers spurt past Celtics with degree of comfort

NEW YORK, March 30 (AP) — Coach Bill Fitch has been agonizing with his Boston Celtics, but he has still to come up with an answer for the team's losses.

"If it was that simple, I would have burned someone at the stake a long time ago," Fitch said Tuesday night after his team was blown away, 130-101, at Indianapolis.

The loss was the seventh in 11 games and 13th in 24 for the Celtics, who have slipped 11 games behind Philadelphia in the Atlantic Division of the National Basketball Association and only three ahead of New Jersey.

"We've just been struggling," Fitch said. "We haven't been physical enough all year."

The victory was only the 19th for Indiana this year and just its fourth in 22 meetings with the Celtics. Clark Kellogg scored 29 points and had 10 rebounds for the Pacers, who ran off two scoring bursts, in the second and third quarters, to turn the game into a slaughter.

During the second Spurt, Indiana outscored Boston 20-9 to take an 83-58 lead after six minutes were gone in the second half. Kellogg had six points in the run. Larry Bird was Boston's high scorer with 25 points.

In other NBA games, Chicago edged Philadelphia 97-95, San Antonio outscored Denver 136-129, Kansas City defeated Houston 111-95, Atlanta beat Cleveland 95-82, Washington downed Milwaukee 94-81, Phoenix beat Utah 115-107, Golden State edged Dallas 109-106, Los Angeles clobbered San Diego 127-109 and Portland defeated Detroit 114-107.

Bulls 97, 76ers 95: Rod Higgins scored 25 points to pace Chicago in a game marred by a fight in the third quarter between the Bulls Reggie Theus and Clemon Johnson of Philadelphia. The fight started quickly and without warning, drawing players from both benches onto the floor and resulting in the ejection of the original combatants.

A basket by Moses Malone with 2:18 left tied the score 91-91, but Dave Corzine and Dudley Bradley hit consecutive Chicago baskets to give the Bulls a four-point lead. Andrew Toney led the 76ers with 23 points.

Spurs 136, Nuggets 129: San Antonio blunted a late Denver rally with four baskets by Gene Banks, and the Spurs upped their Midwest Division lead to 6½ games over Denver. Spurs center Artis Gilmore scored 12 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter. George Gervin added 28 points for San Antonio, and Kiki Vandeweghe topped Denver with 33.

Kings 111, Rockets 95: Kansas City pulled

within 1½ games of Denver by beating Houston with 28 points from Mike Woodson and 19 apiece from Ray Williams and Larry Drew. Terry Teagle topped Houston with 26. Kansas City outscored the Rockets 17-8 early in the fourth quarter to put the game out of reach.

Hawks 95, Cavaliers 82: Atlanta's Dan Roundfield scored 25 points for the Hawks, and Dominique Wilkins had 19, tied 31-31, Atlanta scored the first 10 points of the second quarter and held the lead until halftime.

Bullets 94, Bucks 81: Milwaukee lost its third straight Midwest Division title when Frank Johnson and Jeff Ruland led Washing-

ton to victory with 24 points apiece. The Bullets took the lead by scoring eight straight points and taking a 58-50 advantage in the third quarter.

Suns 115, Jazz 107: Phoenix rallied from a nine-point deficit at halftime, and Alvan Adams scored eight of his season-high 30 points in the fourth quarter as the Suns topped Utah. Larry Nance scored 21 points, and Maurice Lucas had 18 for Phoenix. Utah was led by Darrell Griffith and John Drew, who had 18.

Warriors 109, Mavericks 106: Golden State was aided by Leyer Conner with 12

Ohio court knocks the fight out of Pryor

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 30 (AP) — A state appeals court Tuesday denied boxer Aaron Pryor's request to let him defend his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior welterweight title this weekend without his manager's approval.

The 1st Ohio District Court of Appeals turned down Pryor's request for a partial stay of a lower-court order that Pryor must get the permission of manager Buddy Larosa before fighting Korean Sang-Hyun Kim this Saturday in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The two-sentence decision simply said that Pryor's request "is not well-taken" and is denied.

Pryor's attorney, Thomas Conlan, had asked the court to let the fight proceed and have the contract dispute settled afterward. Pryor is trying to get out of his contract with Larosa. A full hearing on Pryor's attempt to break his contract with Larosa has not yet been scheduled.

Judge William R. Matthews, Hamilton County Common Pleas Court, earlier ruled that while the case remained in dispute, Pryor must get approval for the fight from Larosa. Larosa's attorney has refused to grant permission.

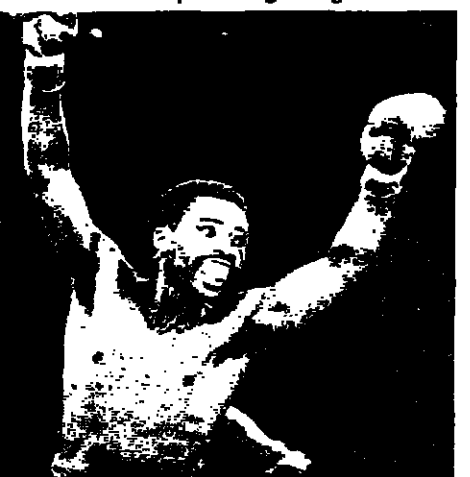
Conlan argued that Pryor arranged the mandatory title defense because Larosa had not. The fight was to pay Pryor \$350,000. Larosa, in an affidavit to the Appeals Court last week, said Larosa had notified Pryor that Larosa had three offers to promote the fight.

Kenneth Seibel, Larosa's lawyer, said Larosa had received no response from Pryor. Larosa also said the WBA never indicated Pryor would be stripped of his championship if he failed to fight Kim on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the World Boxing Council (WBC) said it had turned down a request by

promoter Don King to allow a boxing card that featured both WBC champion Larry Holmes and WBA heavyweight titleholder Mike Dokes.

The council said in a statement that its board voted 19-2 against the request because the presence of the two champions on the same boxing card would cause "enormous confusion" in the public regarding the council



Pryor...courting trouble

and the association. The WBC believes that both organizations "can be good for the world's professional boxing," the council said. "What the WBC seeks is to clarify the confusion." The council noted that each organization has different regulations on boxing matches.

"If both organizations arrived at a clear understanding on regulations, the WBC would not object because the confusion would be reduced to a minimum," the council

seconds left. As they led 107-106, Conner swiped an inbound pass by Dallas' Kelvin Ramsey, and Sleepy Floyd converted two free throws to give Golden State its three-point victory.

Lakers 127, Clippers 109: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored 14 of his 26 points in the first quarter as L.A. rolled to an easy victory over the Clippers. Terry Cummings led San Diego with 20 points.

Blazers 114, Pistons 107: Portland took a 32-20 lead after the first period en route to an easy victory over Detroit. Calvin Natt scored 22 points and Jim Paxson had 20 for the Trail Blazers.

Ohio court knocks the fight out of Pryor

The statement said King wanted to promote a match between Holmes and Tim Witherspoon, the WBC's third-ranking heavyweight contender, and a defense by Dokes against Mike Weaver on the same card May 20.

In Halifax, Canada, Britain's Roy Gumbs retained his Commonwealth middleweight boxing title Tuesday night with a fourth-round technical knockout over Ralph Hollett of Canada. The referee stopped the fight 25 seconds into the fourth as Hollett, the Canadian middleweight champion lay reeling against the ropes.

Former Olympic gold medalist Sugar Ray Seales underwent surgery in Portland, Oregon, Tuesday to repair part of the eye damage that ended his professional boxing career. Seales, 30, says he has no money but he expects to be able to live a fairly normal life as a result of his surgery.

Seales underwent surgery for 3 ½ hours Tuesday morning to repair a detached retina in his left eye. He underwent a similar operation on his right eye Saturday. Dr. Richard Chenoweth, who performed the surgery at good Samaritan Hospital, said Seales "should have good enough vision to walk around normally" and has a good chance to be able to read and drive a car.

Seales, who won an Olympic gold medal in 1972, did not regret his decision to continue to fight the past two years despite blurred vision. Seales won six of his final seven matches before he submitted to the pleas of his manager, Ed Garner, and quit the sport and seek medical help.

Seales said he doesn't know how physicians managed to continue to clear him for fights despite his eye problems.

YFCC flops despite Fahim's valiant ton

By a Staff Writer

DHAHRAN, March 30 — A fine century by Fahim Sani for Young Friend's Cricket Club (YFCC) was in vain as Aramco-Abqaiq managed to hold their opponents in check to squeak home by 21 runs in the first round of the Saleh and Abdulaziz Abahsain sponsored (knockout) Cricket Tournament for the Abahsain Trophy last week.

The 30-over per side tourney had its share of thrills. But Aramco-Abqaiq, one of the fancied teams, match against YFCC produced the major fireworks. But prospect of a close tussle was not evident at the outset when Aramco-Abqaiq rattled up a massive 276 for five wickets in their allotted overs.

Everybody had a share in Aramco-Abqaiq's tally, as the ball was set rolling by Saqib (49) and Jamshed Mir (34). Kauser added 32 before Rashid and Amin laid out the bowling. They stroked with absolute confidence to plunder 65 and 54 runs respectively and remained unbeaten.

Aramco-Abqaiq, with a reasonable total behind them, seemed to be sitting pretty. And they nearly paid dearly for their complacency. Fahim Sani and Mushtaq began YFCC's reply with utmost care and confidence. And once they had settled down, they set about Aramco-Abqaiq's bowling in great style.

But once Sani, who cracked a brilliant 102, and Mushtaq (66) were removed from the scene, Aramco-Abqaiq slowly but surely took over the reins, YFCC, who seemed to be making giant strides toward their rival's total, faltered against the accurate attack and managed only 255 for five in their 30 overs. Only Haider (23) pushed the score after the fine start as Rashid (three for 35) whittled the YFCC's batting prowess.

There were two other centuries in the tourney. Orrilines' Muhammad Sabir cracked a magnificent 139 in his side's emphatic 310-run verdict over Zahid Cricket Club, while Rashid Mukry blasted a scintillating 153 in BAC's 242-run rout of Saulex Cricket Club.

Sabir was in a punitive mood and the hapless Zahid CC felt the edge of his roving blade. He cut delectably, drove elegantly and pulled forcefully as he raced to his magic figures. Sabir's fine start was consolidated by two good innings from Salman Hameed (46) and Agha Nadeem (42) as Orrilines finished with 341 for eight wickets.

After Sabir's merciless pounding, whatever little resistance Zahid CC entertained of offering Orrilines was ripped out by Hafeez-ur-Rehman and Kazi. Hafeez picked up five wickets for 17 runs and Kazi returned flattering figures of three for 14 as Zahid CC caved in for a mere 31.

While Sabir was making hay, Rashid was ruthless against Saulex. His classic innings, which was studded with some striking shots, proved the base on which BAC built their mammoth tally of 293 for eight. Though BAC's dazzling display was surprising, Saulex's pathetic showing was all the more inexplicable. The target was quite within their reach, but Saulex failed to put their heart in their efforts. Only Abdul Karim compiled a patient 30 as they were shot out for a meagre 51. Ifthikar (three for 21) and Fahim (two for 27) shone for BAC.

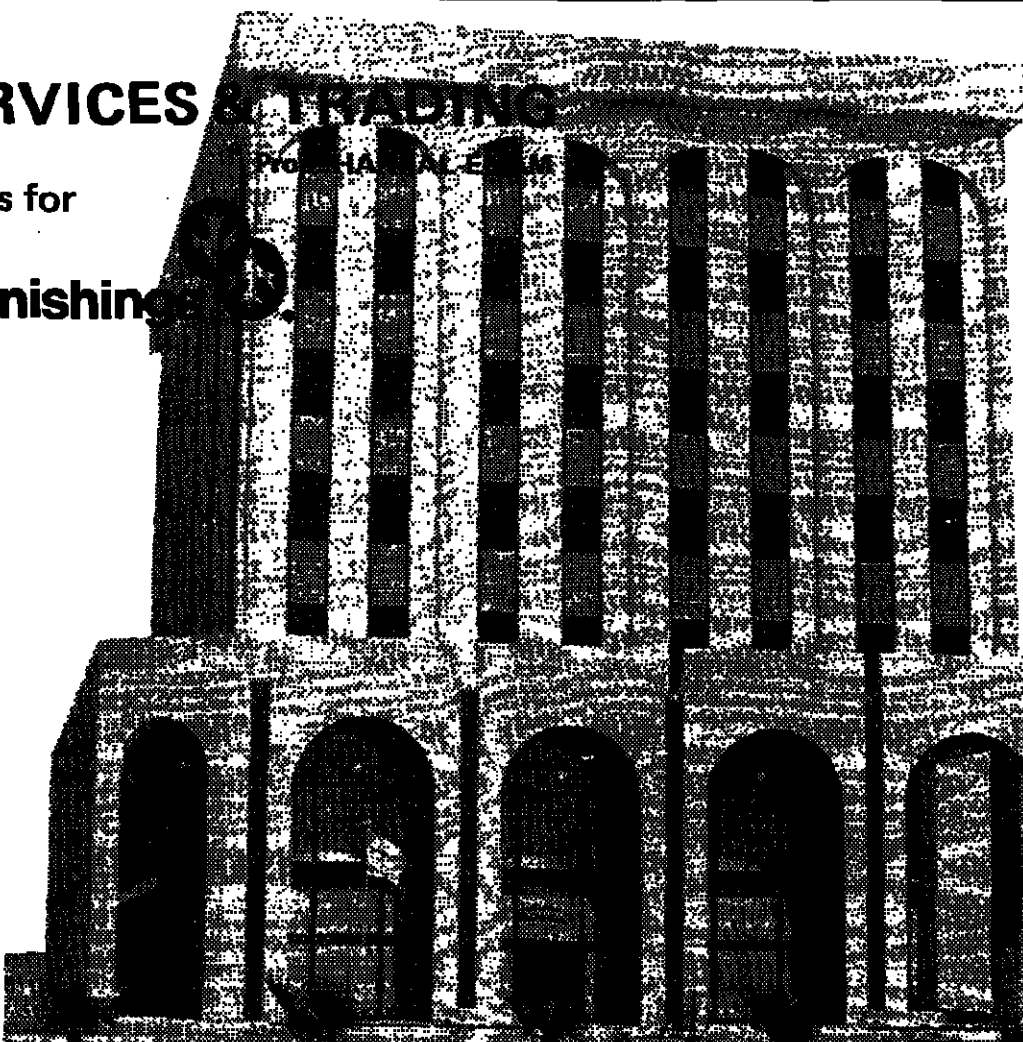
Abahsain registered a fluent 54 runs victory over Petromin in an absorbing encounter. Abahsain, batting first, piled up a modest total of 228 with Ijaz (68), Anis (51), Shabaz (38) getting the bulk of the score. Naem Siddiqui (four for 42), Farooq Qureshi (two for 37) and Iqbal Merchant (two for 40) were the successful bowlers. Petromin began their quest for victory well but ran of steam later when the Abahsain bowlers gained ascendancy. Faiz (50), Farhat (45) were Petromin's star batsmen in a total of 174. Haroon (three for 25), Mushtaq (three for 38) and Shabaz (two for 40) shone for Abahsain.

In the other action, Mira recorded a facile nine-wicket triumph over Combined Cricket Club (CCC). CCC, making the first use of the strip, were shot out for 179 with Belzad (four for 43), Bukhari (two for 42) and Habib (two for eight) doing most of the damage.

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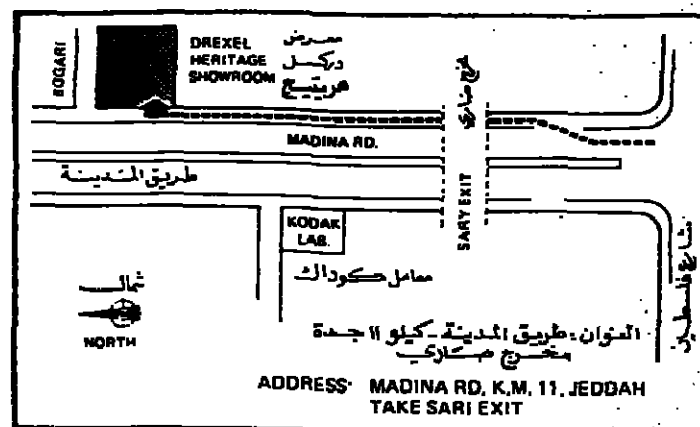


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European Championship

West Germans squeeze home

TIRANA, March 30 (Agencies) — West Germany, struggling to recapture the magic which took them to the World Cup Soccer final in Spain, failed to find their rhythm yet again Wednesday against Albania in the European Soccer Championships Group Six encounter.

But Jupp Derwall's men packed enough power to overcome the determined challenge of Albania for an inspired 2-1 victory. The win, badly needed to keep them in the running after losing their opening encounter against Northern Ireland, was nearly spoiled by Albania's recovery.

But the study Germans beat back the waves of Albania's attack, who managed to pull one back through Targaj following an 81st minute penalty. But before Albania pressed into attack, a revitalized German attacking machine functioned with smooth precision.

Derwall, under fire at home for West Germany's dismal run, added more punch to the attack with an additional midfielder in the form of tireless Hans-Peter Briegel. With steady promptings from the midfield, the forwards led by the indomitable Karl-Heinz Rummenigge kept the Albania citadel under constant siege. And their sustained pressure

paid dividends when Rudi Voeller opened the account for Germany in the 54th minute. A sharp pass from Pierre Littbarski found Voeller in clear and the Bremen striker beat goalkeeper Musa.



Rummenigge... strikes from spot

The goal acted as a spur to the Germans, who increased the pressure at the Albania goal. With Albanian defenders using robust tactics to keep the pressing Germans at bay, they paid dearly for their rough tackling with a penalty in the 67th minute. English Engels, who was making his way into the Albanian goal was felled inside the box, and Italian referee Mennea pointed immediately to the spot. Rummenigge, who stepped up to take the shot, made no mistake from the spot.

In another match in Valetta, the Republic of Ireland scored a narrow 1-0 victory over Malta in Group Seven. After a goalless first session, Ireland got the all-important goal almost on the call of time through international Francis Stapleton.

Meanwhile Yugoslavia scored a fluent 4-1 victory over Romania in a qualification match for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

The Yugoslavs, who led by two goals at the interval through Halilovic and Janjanin got the other goals from Zivkovic and Halilovic. Irimescu reduced the margin for Romania.

Wales will meet Brazil in a friendly international this year, the Welsh Football association announced in Cardiff. The match is expected to take place on June 11.

Soccer results			
EUROPEAN UNDER-21			
England	2	Greece	1
Scotland	2	Switzerland	1
E. Germany	2	Belgium	1
ENGLISH DIVISION III			
Bristol Rovers	2	Sheff.	1
Huddersfield	4	Wrexham	1
Preston	1	Walsall	0
SCOTTISH DIVISION I			
Raith	4	Heart	2
DIVISION II			
Queens of South	1	Forth	1
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS			
West Germany	2	Albania	1
Ireland	1	Malta	0

Against England under-21

Self-goal seals Greece's fate

PORTSMOUTH, March 30 (AFP) — England beat Greece 2-1 here Tuesday in a European (under-21) Football Championship qualifying match. Wallace put England ahead in the 32nd minute but the home side only clinched victory a minute from time, when the Greek player Poutos scored an own goal. Earlier, Youtitissas had restored parity with an 85th minute equalizer.

England under-21 manager Howard Wilkinson said afterward: "The result was pleasing but the scoreline was disappointing. What pleased me most was the way we stuck to the task. We had a lot of situations where we could have scored and even though we kept trying."

"Their equalizer was a great goal but even then I still thought we would win because we were attacking their goalkeeper so hard. If you consider the game in terms of how much the goalkeepers worked, their's dealt with thirty times as much as ours," he added.

Two goals from the Aberdeen player, Black, earned Scotland a 2-1 win over Switzerland in their under-21 championship qualifying match in Dundee. Black's first goal came three minutes after half-time. Koller equalized for the Swiss from a penalty in the 62nd minute only for Black to get the winner, again from a penalty, in the 81st minute.

In Cannes, France, China had a nerve-shattering debut in the 32nd Cannes Youth Football Tournament, being trounced 6-0 by

France. After conceding two goals in the first half, the Chinese defense made some incredible mistakes and the French forwards were able to score four more times after the interval.

In a later match, England drew 0-0 with the Soviet Union. Despite doing almost all the attacking the English youngsters were unable to score, although Jones and Adams both hit the horizontal in the first half.

FIFA gives Los Angeles the nod

ZURICH, Switzerland, March 30 (AP) — The International Federation of Football Associations, FIFA, said Tuesday the road is clear for staging the 1984 Olympic Soccer Tournament although the eligibility problems were not yet resolved.

FIFA Secretary General Sepp Blatter said in a statement that "there are no more obstacles" to staging the games after Los Angeles organizers had met "all conditions regarding quality of the playing grounds" and the International Olympic Committee, IOC had approved a decentralized solution.

This referred to plans to have the games played in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston and Baltimore. Blatter also said that the organizers had agreed to live TV transmission of 20 of the 32 games. But he pointed out that IOC and FIFA still had to meet again because they could not agree on the eligibility

rules. FIFA President Joao Havelange said at New Delhi on Monday that the problems "will be definitely solved" at a meeting in April.

The qualifying rounds of the Olympic tournament have already started, with players under 23 taking part regardless of whether they are professionals or amateurs. These games are played under FIFA rules which make no distinction between the two categories.

Meanwhile, Richard Pound, the leading figure among the younger members of the IOC said the Olympic movement must go back to basic principles.

The Toronto lawyer was elected to the executive board last week, four days after his 41st birthday. He is one of the youngest men ever to serve in the IOC's inner cabinet.

In farewell tournament

Cool Borg blasts hot favorite Clerc

MONTE CARLO, March 30 (Agencies) — Bjorn Borg, playing his last tournament before retiring, swept aside third seed Jose-Luis Clerc of Argentina 6-1, 6-3 here Wednesday to move into the second round of the Monte Carlo Open Tennis Tournament.

Borg, who says he is quitting tennis and wants to be a television sports commentator, played his usual cool game as Clerc, who beat American John McEnroe in a Davis Cup tie earlier this month, struggled to find his form. The Swedish ace, who won an unprecedented five Wimbledon titles in-a-row during his 11-year career, took just 27 minutes to take the first set 6-1.

Then in the second he rallied from 3-1 down to clinch the match as Clerc's game fell to pieces. Clerc missed 11 straight first serves and consistently hit the ball long and wide. Borg was contented to play a back court game, letting the Argentine come to the net and do all the work.

Borg, a resident of this tiny Mediterranean principality and a member of the country club where the tournament is being played, decided to make this his last appearance and entered the draw on one of three wild cards. He meets French Davis

Cup player Henri Leconte Thursday. Leconte beat American Chip Hooper 6-2, 6-3 in the first round.

Borg said: "I didn't expect to win in straight sets. I am very surprised. Clerc didn't play at all well. He made a lot of errors. He can play much better. I think he was nervous. He was bad in the first set and after that it was difficult for him to come back into the match."

"I didn't expect to be playing my best tennis, but I am relaxed because I have decided my future and I know I am not going to play any more. I reckon if I can play well enough, I can win here," he added. "I haven't played Leconte before in a tournament, although we've played exhibition matches. He is a good player, and is in good form at the moment," he concluded. Clerc, who looked tired and disappointed, said: "I was under a lot of pressure. People had been telling me that I would win, but I was nervous."

Meanwhile, fifth-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden beat Balazs Taroczy of Hungary 7-6 (9-7), 6-0 as the sun broke out over Monte Carlo. In other first-round matches, unseeded Mark Edmondson of Australia upset No. 7 seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador



Borg...impressive opener

7-5, 0-6, 6-3, and Italy's Corrado Barazzutti defeated Harold Solomon of the U.S. 6-3, 6-3.

Sweden's Henrik Sundstrom crowned a good day for Swedes with a 6-2, 6-2 drubbing of his more experienced rival, Australian Paul McNamee. In another action, Czechoslovakian Tomas Smid advanced to the next round with a 6-4, 6-2 verdict over Chilean Hans Gildmeister.

Arabian Homes Squash

Laing Wimpey gets a lucky break

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 30 — Laing Wimpey's string of losses was snapped. The only team yet to register a victory in the Arabian Homes Squash League, broke their 'egg' with a 4-1 decision against Toyota 'A' in the Valencia Division.

Lady Luck must have taken pity on the tireless Laing Wimpey. For their victory had a fortunate twist to it. After conceding a walk-over in the fifth string, they were eclipsed in the fourth, third and second before Dame Fortune took a hand.

With Toyota seemingly headed for a 5-0 sweep, things soured for them at this stage. Their first string failed to make an appearance and according to the rules, Toyota had to concede all four ties to give Wimpey their much needed break.

While there was happy tidings for Laing Wimpey just before the festival break, things were gray for Gray Mackenzie 'A' in the Andalus Division 'A'. They stumbled against middle of the table Andalus Village 2-3 and fell back in their bid to catch up with the divisional front runners, Arabian Homes 'A' and Hochtief 'A'.

Gray Mackenzie fell into arrears early, and much depended on their skipper and first string. But he flattered only to deceive. He won the first game, but succumbed easily in

the next three to give the Village side a decided advantage. Fourth string Alan Lucas, with a 2-0 advantage behind him, then put the issue beyond doubt with a 3-9, 9-3, 9-2, 1-9, 9-5 decision over Terry Houston. Roger Linton's and S. Dawes victories over Andy Barnett and N. Herault respectively were purely academic.

At the top of the division, Hochtief 'A' and Arabian Homes 'A' kept up their keen tussle

How they fared			
ANDALUS DIVISION 'A'			
Skanska S/A	1	Arabian Homes 'A'	4
Andalus Village	3	Gray Mackenzie 'A'	2
RIO/BRGM 'A'	1	Hochtief 'A'	4
Murabustan 'A'	1	Bedouins	4
SEVILLE DIVISION 'B'			
KALA	3	Saudi British Bank	2
Saudia 'A'	1	Dunes	4
Binaldin	0	Sangmed 'A'	5
CORDOBA DIVISION 'B'			
Albaid 'A'	3	Marbella	0
Saudi 'A'	2	Tarnac	3
TOLEDO DIVISION 'B'			
Costain 'A'	2	RIOBRGM 'B'	3
Gray Mackenzie 'B'	2	Toyota 'B'	3
Bell Canada 'B'	5	Arabian Homes 'C'	0
CADIZ DIVISION 'C'			
IAL	3	Costain 'A'	2
Gray Mackenzie 'C'	2	Saudia Club	3
VALENCIA DIVISION 'C'			
Albaid 'B'	3	AOPC	2
Saudi 'A'	5	Murabustan 'B'	0
Toyota 'A'	1	Laing Wimpey	4

for honors with identical victories over RIO/BRGM 'A' and Skanska S/A respectively. Hochtief lead the division with a three points advantage over Arabian Homes 'A'. Bedouins kept above cellar team Murabustan 'A' with a 4-1 victory over the latter. The lone match to go the distance was between Derek Chapman and Graham Sibley, with the latter

winning the decider 9-6.

Albaid 'A' continued to hold sway in the Cordoba Division. They completed a 5-0 whitewash of Marbella to maintain their clean slate in the league. But there was mild flutter when bottom of the division, Tarnac, pulled off a 3-2 victory over SAEC with Gordon Clegg tipping the scales in Tarnac's favor with a 5-9, 9-4, 8-10, 10-9, 9-10 verdict over Keith Stewart at fourth string. This was

Tarnac's second victory in nine clashes. Costain 'A' in the Toledo Division suffered a setback when they lost against RIO/BRGM 'B' 2-3. Their loss coupled with Toyota 'B' victory over Gray Mackenzie 'B' saw them slip behind Toyota by four points. Costain have themselves to blame for the position they are in now.

Mehta may have it rough in Kenya Safari

NAIROBI, March 30 (Agencies) — The weather is the big talking point in Nairobi at this time of the year.

The long rains are due any day and drivers and team managers of the World Rally Championship know it is rain more than anything that can determine the result of Kenya's Safari Rally.

The top teams have been in Africa for over a month practicing for the five day, 5000 kms marathon billed unashamedly by the organizers as 'the world's greatest rally'. Eighty-two competitors are listed to start this year's Mariboro Safari on Thursday, but only a handful have any chance of success. The Safari is a Rally of experience as much as machine.

Nissan driver Shekhar Mehta, Ugandan born Kenya resident, is the master — this year he tries for his sixth outright and fifth in a row win while Rauno Aaltonen, the original "Flying Finn", is the frustrated challenger. Aaltonen, who won Monte Carlo as long ago as 1967, makes his 20th attempt to win. He has been second three times, but never made the No. 1 spot that he regards as 'a personal triumph like climbing Mount Everest'.

After years of staying faithful to the old

model Datsun Violet (including last year when he insisted on driving the car when it was no longer in production), Mehta has Nis-



Mikkola...makes another bid

san's latest and more powerful 240 RS to defend his title while Aaltonen has virtually the same specification Rothmans Opel that nearly took him to victory last year.

Mehta has full back-up with similar Nissans for Finn Timo Shlonen and Kenyan Mike Kirkland, while the second Rothmans Opel of 1981 world champion Ari Vatanen, of Finland, supports Aaltonen. But this year the old rivals have another challenge to meet. For the first time Audi are in Kenya with the all conquering four wheel drive quattro and three drivers — Hannu Mikkola, who in 1972 was the first overseas driver to win the event that started in 1953, Michele Mouton of France and local expert Vic Preston.

Audi are making a big effort. At present they are level on points with Lancia in the World Championship and the Lancia sports car is not entered in Kenya.

When the series resumes next on the high speed tarmac roads of Corsica, the advantage will once again pass to Lancia. But despite Audi's undisputed superiority of power and traction it could well be the weather that decides the winner in the end.

BRIEFS

LE MANS, France, (AFP) — Iwao Ishikawa, the Japanese motorcyclist who was badly injured in a crash during practice for the French Grand Prix Tuesday, died in hospital in Tours. Ishikawa collided with Italian Loris Reggiani on a bend toward the end of the day's practice, as both bikes flew off the track and over the safety rail.

LONDON (AFP) — Danie Gerber and Errol Tobias, the South African Rugby Union stars who played for the Barbarians against Scotland in Edinburgh last Saturday, have been named in the "Baa Baas" 31-strong party for their traditional tour of Wales.

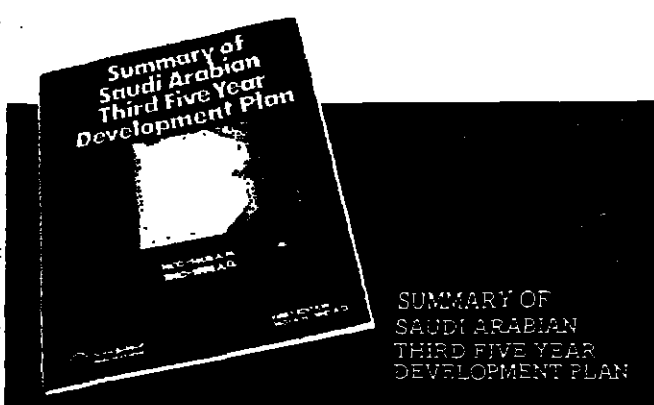
MOSCOW (AP) — America's women's volleyball team defeated the Soviet national team 15-11, 7-15, 15-3, 15-13 Tuesday night and won a four-team international tournament, championship, Tass, the Soviet news agency, reported. The American team had trounced the Soviets' second-string squad 15-6, 15-6, 15-8 in second-round play Monday after blanking Cuba.

VALENCE D'AGEN, France (AFP) — Francis Castaing of France took top spot on the 124 km opening half-stage of the Midi-Pyrenees Cycling Road Race from Albi to Valence D'Agen here Tuesday.

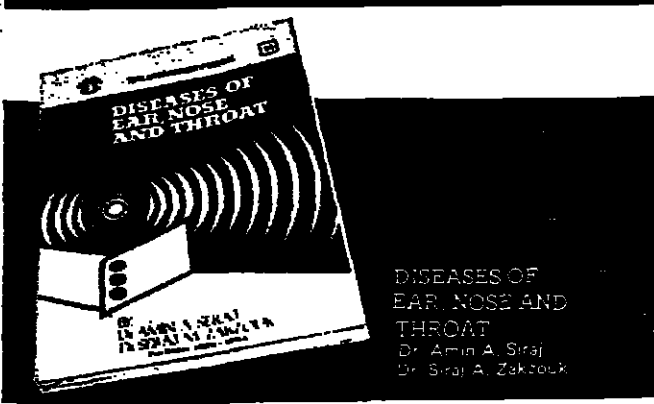
CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt beat South Korea 31-23 in the first match of the "Peace" International Handball Tournament here Tuesday. The South Koreans were well on top in the first half and led 14-11 at the interval. Also playing in the tournament are Italy and Poland. The competition will last six days with each of the four sides playing each other twice.

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — The star player of Romania's water polo team has disappeared after a Balkans Championship match here, Istanbul's *Gunes* newspaper reported Tuesday. The paper said Mirhuseu Florin, 18 left the other members of the Romanian team during the awards ceremony on Monday. He reportedly returned alone by taxi to the team's hotel to collect his things before boarding an unidentified automobile waiting outside.

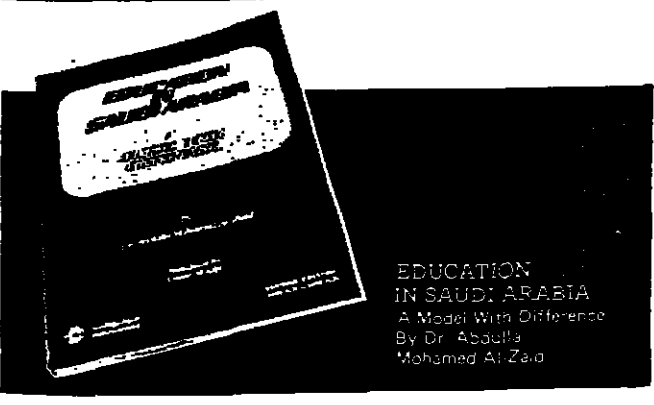
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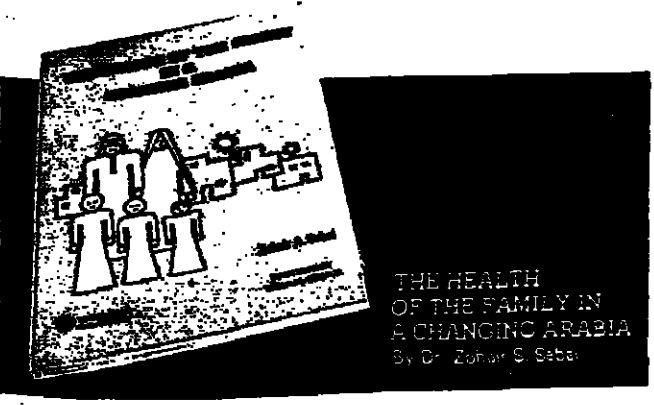
SUMMARY OF SAUDI ARABIA THIRD FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN



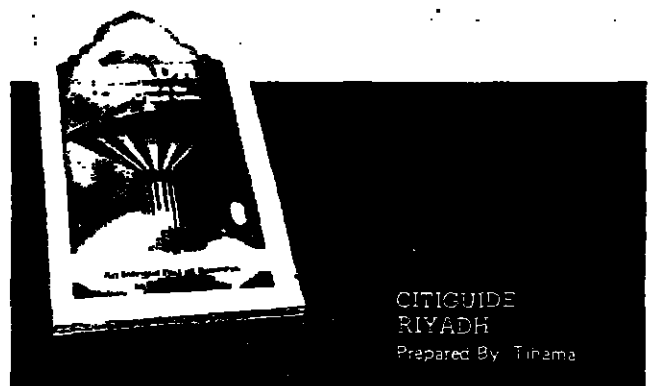
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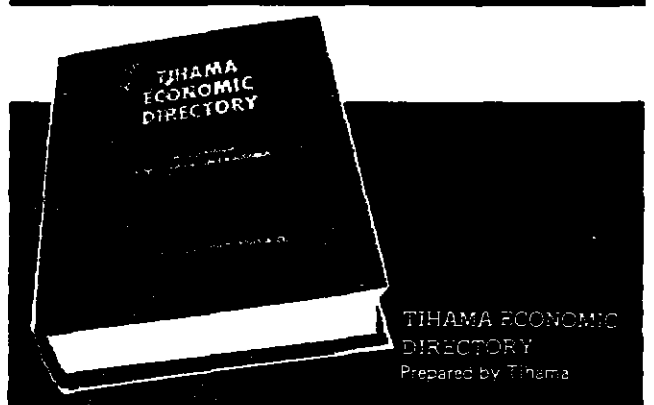
EDUCATION IN SAUDI ARABIA



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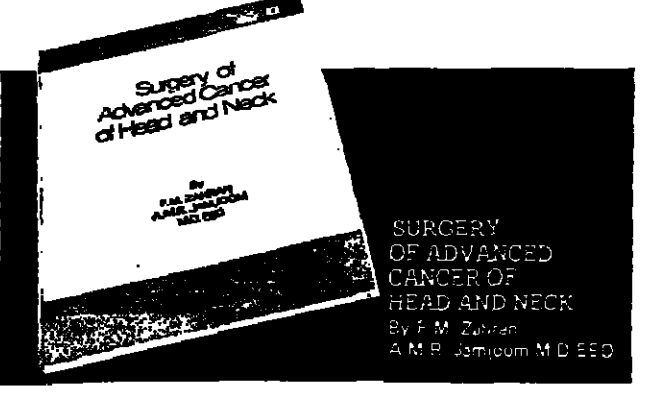
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Nicaraguan forces bomb rebel airfield

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, March 30 (AP) — Nicaraguan Air Force planes discovered and bombed an airfield in northern Nicaragua that rebels were using to supply their forces, Interior Minister Tomas Borge said.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry denounced new cross-border raids by Honduran-based Nicaraguan exiles pledged to overthrow the leftist Sandinista government, as the Honduran presidency denied an earlier charge that its troops had attacked Nicaraguan frontier posts in support of the rebels.

Borge, speaking at a news conference late Tuesday, said an undetermined number of rebels were killed or wounded when planes bombed the airfield, close to the confluence of Coco and Bocay rivers just across the border from Honduras in Jinotega province.

Helicopters and small planes used the airfield to bring weapons, ammunition and other supplies to the rebel forces, Borge said. The insurgents also used an airfield in Honduras territory, he added, but stressed that the airfield that was bombed was in Nicaragua.

On the ground, troops from the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry and the rebels clashed in the area of the bombing, killing

three Sandinista soldiers and wounding three others, also on Monday, Borge said. He said there were casualties among the insurgents but gave no details.

The clash raised the number of Sandinista troops killed to 64, while the rebels have lost 280 since clashes began two months ago, according to government reports.

Meanwhile, the U.N. Security Council ended five days of debate Tuesday night without taking any action on Nicaragua's complaint of invasion by emigrants based in Honduras.

Sir John Thomson of Britain, the council president, proposed in a closing speech that Nicaragua and Honduras negotiate to settle their differences with the help of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

It was the second time in less than a year that a council debate on a Nicaraguan complaint ended without action. Last March and April, the council debated Nicaragua's claim that a U.S. invasion was imminent and on April 2 the United States vetoed a Panamanian resolution appealing to all U.N. members not to use force against any Central American or Caribbean country.

In Tuesday's debate, Peruvian Ambassador Celso Pastor de la Torre put forward another plan for settlement of the dispute between Nicaragua and Honduras.

Zimbabwe denies atrocities

HARARE, March 30 (R) — The Zimbabwe government Wednesday denied allegations by Roman Catholic bishops of widespread army atrocities in Matabeleland province and accused them of issuing irresponsible propaganda.

A pastoral statement Tuesday by the Catholic Bishops' Conference said troops in the name of anti-rebel operations were conducting a reign of terror, with wanton killing, wounding, beating, burning and rape. Information minister Nathan Shamuyarira said the bishops had borrowed from "the fabricated reports of the hostile foreign press."

In a statement on the front page of the national newspaper *The Herald*, he rejected their allegations of incontrovertible evidence of atrocities. "Quite to the contrary, the actions of the army have created a climate of peace and relief for the generality of the population in Matabeleland," he said. Shamuyarira repeated government

charges that atrocities had been committed by rebels posing as government forces. He stressed that the army had been sent to the western province to maintain law and order and crush unrest which he said was being fomented by the opposition ZAPU Party and South Africa.

He accused the bishops, who said hundreds of innocent people had been killed in continuing military operations, of issuing an "irresponsible, contrived and propagandistic statement." He rejected their call for a judicial commission of inquiry, but said the government itself was ready to investigate.

"We must stress that no evidence has been presented to the government by the Catholic bishops," he said. He stated that information given to the government by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe, an unofficial human rights watchdog body, was being investigated. "If any facts are proven, punishment will be meted out."

Spain, Morocco improve relations

MADRID, March 30 (R) — Spanish officials said Wednesday Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez had achieved a breakthrough in relations with neighboring Morocco during a two-day visit. The officials said, with evident satisfaction, that Morocco had not raised formally its claims to the two Spanish North African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla.

The prime minister's talks with King Hassan and Moroccan government officials have cleared the air on a number of contentious issues, they added.

But in Rabat a high-ranking government source said Moroccan claims to the enclaves were discussed during the visit. At a news conference before returning to Madrid Tuesday night, Gonzalez said the Moroccan authorities "had the delicacy not to mention the issue" during his stay, but the Moroccan source said the Spanish minister meant it was not mentioned in public.

"We do not practice an ostrich-like policy. The problem exists and must be faced. But we discussed it without thumping the table," the Moroccan source said. Morocco has linked Ceuta and Melilla with Madrid's sovereignty claims over Gibraltar, the British colony at Spain's southern tip, and indicated it will press claims formally if Spain recovers the rock colony.

Last month the Arab Parliamentary Union meeting in Rabat adopted a resolution urging Spain to enter into negotiations for the restoration of Moroccan sovereignty over Ceuta and Melilla. Moroccan officials said talks would resume very shortly in Madrid to conclude a long-term cooperation accord between Spain and Morocco.

Gonzalez said his visit was part of Spanish moves to establish balanced relations with all parts of the North African area.

Kohl's coalition has two new faces

BONN, March 30 (Agencies) — Sixteen cabinet ministers were sworn in Wednesday before the Bundestag, the German parliament, in a ceremony marking the definitive start of the second administration of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Kohl's government, made up of eight Christian Democrats, five Christian Socialists and three liberals, differed in only two instances from the cabinet that was in place prior to the country's March 6 elections. The new faces were those of Christian Socialist Ignaz Kiechle, agriculture minister, and Social Democrat Heinrich Windelen, minister for inter-German relations.

But there have been no changes in the key ministries. Hans Dietrich-Genscher and Otto Lamsdorff, of the liberal Free Democratic Party, remain the foreign affairs and economy ministers. Christian Democrats Gerhard Stoltenberg and Manfred Woerner retain their posts as ministers of finance and the interior, while Friedrich Zimmermann, a Christian Socialist, stays on at the Interior Ministry.

As they did Tuesday during Kohl's swearing-in ceremony, the pacifist, ecology-oriented "Greens" Party, which won parliamentary seats for the first time in the March 6 elections, chose to boycott Wednesday's proceedings.

In economic affairs, the center-right coalition is committed to budgetary austerity, expansion and growth through increased private investment, and to refraining from imposing new taxes.

In foreign affairs, by contrast, the policy is far less well-defined and the leaders of the ruling coalition must still meet to arrive at a common position. The major problem confronting the new government is the planned deployment later this year of U.S.-made

Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles in the country. Meanwhile, the Greens Party called for a boycott of a national census planned for April 27.

A hotly disputed issue is a plan in Bavaria to pay a reward to census officials who discover a citizen not registered with local police, as required by law. The officials would be paid 2.50 marks (\$1.10) for each German found and five marks (\$2.20) for each foreigner.

igners. Critics say this amounts to a "witch hunt" for suspected illegal immigrants.

But speakers for the government said it remained committed to the head count which also demands a mass of personal details such as type of income, size of living space and rent payments. An attempt by the Greens to call a special Bundestag session on the issue was heavily defeated in hand vote.

Bomb kills 8 in Assam

NEW DELHI, March 30 (Agencies) — Eight persons were killed and an unknown number wounded in a bomb blast Wednesday in Assam's Kamrup district, near the state capital of Gauhati, the Press Trust of India said quoting official sources.

In an important development, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Assam Wednesday to study security and relief measures in the troubled northeastern state where election violence last month killed 3,000 persons and made around 250,000 homeless.

She left behind in Delhi a parliamentary row over a newspaper report that the Indian ambassador to Washington had testified before a U.S. congressional committee about Assam. She denied he had done so.

Mrs. Gandhi's first visit on her three-day

tour was by helicopter to a relief camp in the western district of Goalpara to meet people displaced by the violence. She went later to the state capital Gauhati for talks with officials including ministers in the newly elected state government of her Congress (I) Party.

Militant Assamese leaders, who announced last weekend they were temporarily suspending their anti-immigrant campaign, have declared Wednesday a day of mourning for those killed in the Assam violence.

Assam was plunged into bloodshed as ethnic clashes erupted during last month's state elections which were bitterly opposed by the militants calling for illegal immigrants, mostly Bengali-speaking Muslims, to be deported.

From page one

In a thumbnail analysis of the Kingdom's development, Algosabi said that "circumstances that are ripe for development on a large scale do not come every day." It was to seize this "historical chance" that the Kingdom undertook its very ambitious plans in 1975-80 while the financial resources were available.

Algosabi described the years '75-80 of the Second Five-Year Development Plan as "the go-go phase in which we just went at tremendous speed with our industry, towns and infrastructure." He said it is now time for a period of slowing down and claimed this should have been inevitable regardless of the oil situation.

Now most of our infrastructure — electrification, ports and road systems — is in place and development will proceed at a slower rate from now on.

"This is no revelation," said Algosabi, who claimed as much in a lecture two years ago. "All of us knew that production of 10 million bpd or 9, or 8, or 7 million was sustainable only for a short period of time."

It is impossible to predict exactly what will happen to the oil market over the next

decade, the minister said. "You could make an encyclopedia of the predictions in oil that have gone haywire. The only one who was right about oil was the one who kept his mouth shut throughout."

Algosabi cited statistics showing how the Kingdom has "teleported 50 years into five."

In industry, we went from less than SR300 million invested in 1975 to SR26 billion over a span of less than eight years. In electricity, we started in 1974-75 with 1,300 megawatts, now we have over 7,000. In housing, more than 300,000 units were built in the years of the Second Plan. There have been 900,000 new telephone lines installed. In education, we now have more than 1 1/4 million boys and 700,000 girls in school and now each village is demanding more and more girls schools.

"Manpower programs are thriving, with over 4,000 training at ARAMCO and 2,000 at SABIC. Our technical institutes are full, and people are enlisting in our medical training facilities. There is now a growing realization that a university education is not the only route," said Algosabi, who has long advocated the need for more Saudi Arabian technicians and craftsmen.



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